The Builder.

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Sir Gilbert Scott's Presidential Address at the Institute of Architects.

THOUGH it is nearly two years since you did me the honour of electing me as your President, this is the first occasion on which I have had the pleasure of appearing personally before you at the opening of a session, and of delivering to you in person the customary opening address.

I was deprived of that pleasure last year through having felt it my duty, at the advice of my friends, to indulge in half a year's rest from professional work,—the first absence from business of that duration which I had enjoyed since I commenced practice. My inaugural address was read in my absence by our friend Mr. Eastlake. The writing of it had greatly interested and stirred me up while at a distance, and if it failed to produce a similar effect on the minds of those who heard or read it, I can only say that I may regret, but cannot help, it.

My long absence, on that occasion, was divided equally between the enjoyment of the works of nature and of art,—between God's architecture in the mountains and man's architecture in the cities of France and Italy. This recollection suggests to me that, on our reunion after our autumnal recess, we may, many of us, have to congratulate each other on our return from a well-earned vacation, during which our bodily system has been invigorated and restrung after the labours of the year, and our artistic system refreshed and supplied with new material,—the one by the aid of the country, the mountain, or the ocean; and the other by drinking deeply and afresh at that exhaustless fountain of art, whether ancient or otherwise, which happily yet remains to us in nearly every country of Europe, and in many beyond its confines.

It is a trite observation, but one which the too often repeated neglect of its precepts may excuse, that we, architects, especially need both these forms of relaxation and re-invigorment. Our customary labours are peculiarly exacting upon body and mind; both of which have, therefore, a special necessity for change,—and that, careful and frequent as may have been our studies from the great examples of our art, their impressions and our memory of them grow dull, and our very sketches lose their early value, unless we introduce, ever and anon, new matter by the study of ever fresh examples, and by the repeated study of those with which we were once familiar.

To the young and ardent student, the study of the ancient examples of his glorious art is the subject of romantic anticipations, of delightful realities, and of hallowed and cherished memories; while, as we grow older, it is not only essential to take every opportunity of re-lighting the lamp of our youthful enthusiasm by revisiting the objects which delighted us in earlier life, and of ever adding to its flame by seeking out fresh objects for our studies; but it is consoling to feel conscious that, while other sentiments may possibly become less vigorous, this all-absorbing source of delight never fails to kindle in our hearts the same enthusiasm as ever; and that even old age does not lessen the almost childlike earnestness with which we revisit and again sketch from the object of our youthful admiration.

Let us, then, encourage these feelings, and never for a moment imagine that advancing years have any right to damp them! These considerations lead on to what is always the most melancholy part of our annual addresses,—the memory of those who, though keeping up, perhaps to the last, these lively feelings for their art, have been, during the past year, taken from amongst us.

The losses we have to deplore are as follow:—M. Baltard, architect, of Paris, honorary and corresponding member, of whom I will ask our foreign secretary, or Mr. Phéné Spiers, to speak; Mr. Elkington Gill, architect, of Bath, Fellow, a most respectable and excellent member of our Institute; Mr. William Perkins, architect, of Worcester, an old pupil of Thomas Rickman, of honoured memory.

Mr. Perkins was the official architect to Worcester Cathedral, and carried out the recent restoration there. I was associated with him in respect of internal fittings and decorations, and can bear witness to his knowledge of our ancient architecture, to his practical skill, and to his honourable and thoroughly trustworthy character, both professionally and personally.

Lastly, I have again to advert to the loss, not only to our Institute, but to our art and to the world,—sustained by the decease,—all too antedate,—of our highly-gifted and most valued friend and Fellow, Mr. Owen Jones.

Enough has, perhaps, already been said at different meetings to show what were our feelings towards Mr. Owen Jones, and how deeply we have felt, and must ever continue to feel, his loss. I do not myself feel able worthily to add to this; inasmuch as nothing short of a memoir by one whose privilege it has been to enjoy his intimate personal acquaintance can so add to what has been already said, as to do any justice to the gravity of the subject. Sir Digby Wyatt is obviously the man to do this. He was away at the time of his friend's decease; but I trust he will, ere long, favour the Institute with such a personal sketch of the life and of his own reminiscences of his and our common friend, as may adequately represent, on the face of our Transactions, both the eminent qualities of our distinguished member, and our appreciation at once of his merits and of our loss. . . . .

I may here mention that the bequest of 1,000*l.* by our lamented Fellow and past-president, Sir William Tite, has been thoroughly considered, as to the precise mode of carrying out the instructions of the testator, by a special committee; two members of which were especially selected from among those personally acquainted with his wishes. This committee was efficiently aided by our honorary solicitor, and it is trusted that the result will prove satisfactory.

A bequest has recently been made by the will of the late Mr. Thomas Grissell, of Norbury Park, of 250*l.*, to be expended yearly on founding a new medal. I have a melancholy pleasure in recording my sentiments of friendship and respect for the memory of Mr. Grissell. It was many, many years back that I placed myself for a short time under him, for the purpose of studying the more practical departments of my profession, and I can never remember him but with feelings of respectful regard.

Ely Chapel.

Early in the present year the attention of the Council was called, by a letter from Mr. Christian, to the proposed sale by auction of Ely Chapel, in Holborn; that gentleman urging that some steps should be taken towards preserving that interesting example of Mediæval architecture.

I may here mention,—for the information of the few, either among the hearers or readers of my address, who may need it,—that the chapel of St. Etheldreda, in Holborn, is the solitary remnant of the once splendid London Palace of the Bishops of Ely. It appears to have been erected by Bishop de Luda (or Louth), who held the see from 1290 to 1298, and is consequently about coeval with the exquisite monument to that bishop in Ely Cathedral,—a work clearly by the same hand with the tombs of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, and Aveline, his wife, at Westminster, and of Archbishop Peckham at Canterbury; four works of art which may challenge Christendom for any to surpass them; and this chapel bears so much resemblance to them in some of its details as to suggest a like authorship. It may be said to be a worthy contemporary of the sanctuary and earlier eastern chapels at St. Alban's; of the abbey churches at Newstead, Tintern, and of Sweet Heart; and of many other of the noblest productions of the most refined and completed variety of Mediæval architecture. It has been immortalised by Shakspeare in Richard III. and by Pugin in his "Contrasts"; and thus stands high, both as an historical monument and as a work of art.

These claims, however, were unavailing to save it from the inexorable hammer,—not used, we may hope, to "break down the carved work thereof," but still, at all risks, to knock it down to the highest bidder.

The Council lost not a moment in taking up the cause of the threatened monument. A deputation called both on the law officers who had ordered the sale, and on the auctioneers who were commissioned to carry it out. Our accomplished Secretary pleaded its cause in the *Times*. I wrote myself to the two men whom I deemed from their antecedents most likely to open their hearts and their purses in such an extremity,—but received no efficient offers of aid; when, as a response to Mr. Eastlake's appeal, Baron Albert Grant came forward with offers of immediate aid, if we would subsequently use our exertions to induce the public to take it up.

We thought that the precious monument was rescued,—but, unluckily, we had been requested to advise a maximum to be offered,—and, to our dismay, an unknown bid went beyond our commission. We could readily have amended this; but we had failed to arrange our plans with due forethought and perfection, and it was lost! Happily, in due time, it transpired that the purchase had been made for Roman Catholic uses, so that we may hope that the precious relic may be preserved and its mutilations restored.

I trust, however, that our future efforts of this kind will be more perfectly arranged; though I acknowledge to a large share in the imperfection of those I have recorded.

The Metropolitan Buildings Bill.

Among public events of the past Session with which the Institute has been brought into official connexion, may be mentioned the attempt made by the Metropolitan Board of Works to supersede the present Building Act by a new Bill, which was introduced in the House of Commons by Sir James Hogg, M.P.

It will be remembered that our Council in their annual report for 1874, drew attention to the fact that the draft of this Bill was only submitted for their opinion at the eleventh hour, when there was but little or no time left for its examination. A committee was, however, appointed to consider the subject, and they prepared a report, which was subsequently adopted by the Council and forwarded to the Board of Works. In that report objection was made to

the general principle of the new Bill, which appeared to confer upon the Metropolitan Board of Works too full and too arbitrary powers, and to reduce the position and individual authority of the district surveyor. It was also remarked that this Institute, to which for nearly twenty years the duty of examining candidates for that office had been entrusted, was practically ignored in the Bill; and this naturally led to the inference that the examination itself, which had been carefully and gratuitously conducted for so long a period, might lapse altogether, at least under its present system. Several other objections, chiefly of a technical nature, were raised to the Bill in our report, which, having been duly circulated among our members, was brought forward for discussion at a special general meeting, held here on the 11th of May last. Meanwhile, a petition against the Bill had been drafted by the Council, and presented in the House of Commons by Mr. Beresford Hope, our late president, who, I may here say parenthetically, is always ready to render us services of this kind, and give this Institute the full benefit of his position and influence in Parliament. It was also intended that a deputation from the Institute should wait on the First Commissioner of Works for the purpose of explaining the objects of the petition. Unfortunately Lord Henry Lennox's engagements prevented him from receiving the deputation before the new Bill came on for discussion in Parliament, but he subsequently made an appointment with Mr. Eastlake, who had an interview with him on the subject. The Bill was eventually referred to a Select Committee of the House of Commons; and, when the matter was discussed at our special general meeting, a series of resolutions were passed, the purport of which you will probably all recollect. Copies of these resolutions were forwarded to the several members of the Parliamentary Committee, and counsel was retained to represent this Institute and support our petition against the Bill while the Committee sat. In taking this step, the Institute really acted in conjunction with the District Surveyors' Association, who themselves had drawn up a careful report on the subject, but who not having lodged a petition against the Bill would have no *locus standi* except as members of the Institute.

The Bill received opposition, as might have been expected, from more than one quarter; and, after hearing arguments and evidence on both sides of the question, the Parliamentary Committee suggested certain amendments, which, if they had been adopted by the Metropolitan Board, would have met some, at least, of the objections raised to the Bill, and might have helped its progress in the House; but the promoters of the Bill, though prepared to concede certain points,—as, for instance, the re-insertion of a clause authorising this Institute to examine candidates for the office of district surveyor,—were not prepared to withdraw or remodel those clauses which represented what may be called the principle of their scheme; and, finding this to be the case, the Parliamentary Committee decided that it was inexpedient to proceed with the Bill, and made an official report to that effect.

The Finances and Efficiency of the Institute.

I will now notice a matter concerning deeply the vital interests of our Institute, on which considerable divergence of opinion has existed, but which I entertain very sanguine hopes may lead to arrangements tending greatly to our future prosperity and practical usefulness.

Though the finances of the Institute evince a satisfactory progression, the increase in our expenditure has advanced at a more rapid rate, and was found last year to have so nearly overtaken our income as to excite some alarm. . . . . .

It has been, I think, clearly shown by our secretary and others, that the alarm felt by the finance committee was rather prospective than bearing directly upon present exigencies, and that the unfavourable figures were the result of some exceptional calls upon our funds, which *need* not be repeated; but, on the other hand, it is the farthest from being desirable or satisfactory that a great society like our own,—the standing representative of the professors of a great and universal art,—should ever be in danger,—under circumstances however exceptional,—of scraping the bottom of its purse, or finding itself unable to meet expenses which the exigencies of the profession it represents may point out, from time to time, as being beneficial. Such a position, I urge, is beneath our just dignity, and would at times render nugatory our efforts for the great objects for which our Institute was founded.

Not to mention, however, these extraneous calls upon our finances,—have we not every year demands upon us which our great position seems to render imperative, but which the limits of our resources compel us to under-rate?

Is our *Library*, for example, on a scale commensurate with the dignity and the just demands of our profession? Have we the means to procure measured drawings of the ancient monuments, even of our own land, which every winter is reducing to impalpable dust, or the hand of spoliation sweeping away? Have we funds to enable us to procure fac-simile drawings of ancient decorations, which the very air we breathe is every moment destroying? Our Rooms ought to be the Public Record Office of all which relates to the ancient and perishable relics of our own and of the collateral arts.

Again,—Have we sufficient means of sending students about to study their art, in our own or in foreign countries? Happily we *are* able to do a little; but are we content with that little?

And yet again,—Have we means at our disposal to aid and promote schools of study under our own eye? or, on the contrary, are not the few poor pittances doled out most unwillingly for such objects reckoned as among those *exceptional* expenses which we promise ourselves and bargain with others never again to repeat? And were we not tempted this year to view the failure of the Soane Competition almost as a windfall?

I rejoice to think that a portion of the new committee [appointed to report on this question] consists of *Associates*;—of men young enough to remember the defects and needs of their own pupilage, and to sympathise with those who are still but students. I rejoice, too, to think that some of these belong to that younger society, which is doing much towards avoiding and meeting these defects and these needs.

It has been suggested that this house, and the galleries it contains, should be made the means of exhibiting, from year to year, specimens and objects of contemporary art, tending to excite ambition and emulation; and were such exhibitions conducted with a fearless and rigorous censorship, it would be most useful. The fear is, that it would descend to the rank of an advertising office. Far more, however, do we want a constant exhibition of the works of those artists and workmen of good old times, which would excite no jealousy, and respecting whose claims upon our study there would be little difference of opinion. I trust that this new committee will not report till they are able to show us how to attain these objects, and all others we need: if without raising fees and subscriptions, *well*; but *anyhow* to attain them. I will only add on this subject that the number of our members, though large, is small as compared with the extent of the profession; and that the increase of our members brings with it also the increase both of our *usefulness* and of our *resources*.

The Completion of St. Paul's.

One circumstance which has somewhat disturbed the public mind in relation to our art and to one of its noblest monuments, it may be hardly safe to allude to while so much excitement exists. Yet it is so exceptionally important that to pass it by in silence might be attributed to cowardice or carelessness. I allude to the project for decorating the interior of St. Paul's.

On this project the Council of the Institute, as long ago as 1870, passed a resolution cordially approving of the same, and offering the co-operation and sympathy of the Institute, though even in the absence of any such voluntary expression of feeling, it needs no assurance that a society like ours would feel the deepest interest in the success of such a work.

The outline of the intended treatment of this noble interior, which was laid before the public at that time (1870), as the groundwork on which the committee sought subscriptions, was as follows.

After alluding to the great care which would be required in the selection of artists and designs, and the necessity of a considerable amount of experiment before any final decision could be arrived at in so many difficult questions of art, they proceed to say:—

"The leading principle affirmed by all who have been consulted is this—To make Sir Christopher Wren's intentions for the completion and decoration of the Cathedral the main text, as it were, and to study to carry out as implicitly as possible whatever he may have expressed in drawing, model, or writing; and, where these materials for guidance fail, that harmony is to be sought for to the fullest practicable extent with what he has proposed or done."

"Sir Christopher Wren's views are consistent with the most magnificent ideal. We know that mosaic painting, rich marbles, and sumptuous gilding entered largely into the calculation of what he thought was due to his design."

Proceeding to mention Sir Christopher Wren's intended marble ciborium or altar-piece, and his magnificent choir-screen, which, with its architecture, metal work, and sculpture, would be a very gem of art, they continue:—

"The better to illustrate the idea of the magnificence which has been imagined, let the entrance be supposed at the west end, about to become the easiest access to the Cathedral. On passing through bronze doors richly charged with devices, the first most striking effect would be produced by the brilliant roof covered with mosaic patterns, and rich with gold. The cupola immediately overhead, 40 ft. in diameter, and the panels of the exquisite side chapels, would be pictorially treated in the same material. The walls relieved with marble slabs and marble inlay; the pavement also and the windows, enriched with colour, must be so treated as to preserve a due regard for breadth of effect and the necessity in St. Paul's for a large amount of unobstructed sunlight. All panels to be filled with coloured marbles or sculpture, and no niche to be without its statue. The nave and transepts must, however, be in some respects subordinate to the choir."

"In the great dome, which has been happily called the very 'essence of the building, the *grisaille* pictures of Sir James Thornhill cannot fail, ultimately, to give place to Sir C. Wren's cherished wish for mosaic pictures. And, in addition to these, the drum and the eight spandrels (the latter already commenced in mosaic) will afford grand scope for the highest efforts of art and magnificence."

"The roof of the choir should be a splendid and impressive work in mosaic, elaborate while massive and dignified in general effect, surpassing the richness of the rest of the church. The windows in the apse will here also be more fully coloured; and the marbles, whether used structurally as replacing the stonework of the principal pilasters, or in panels and inlaid patterns on the walls and pavement, would all be arranged so as to impart a fuller idea of sumptuousness. This must be especially the case with the ciborium and the choir-screen already referred to."

They then quote from Sir Christopher himself the following remarks:—

"Painting and sculpture," said the judicious Sieur de Cambray (Roland Freart), "are the politest and noblest of ancient arts, true, ingenuous, and claiming the resemblance of life, the emulation of all beauties, the fairest of records of all appearances, whether celestial or sublunary, whether angelical, divine, or human. And what art can be more hopeful or more pleasing to a philosophical traveller, an architect, and every ingenious mechanician? *All must be lame without it.*"

I have quoted these passages because, in the state of excited confusion into which the whole subject has recently fallen, it may be well to have a fair conspectus before us of the actual programme thus early laid before the public, as the foundation for the appeal to their co-operation.

Such, then, was the proclaimed intention; nor is it possible to conceive a promise of more gorgeous sumptuousness than it offers; so that we must not now complain of excess of splendour, though the treatment and design are fully open to our criticism.

At about this stage of the proceedings, the executive committee appear to have requested Mr. Burges,—not as an architect, but rather as a man learned in Christian iconography,—to lay a scheme before them for the arrangement of subjects for the mosaic work, sculpture, &c., which he did in a very detailed form, displaying great mastery of the subject, though I would suggest one falling off from the spirit, though not the letter, of the programme in the omission of figure-subjects from the small domes in the bays of the nave and choir. At that time Mr. Penrose was the sole architect to the committee, as well as being officially surveyor of the fabric; and it was, I suppose, nearly two years later that for some reason, right or wrong, the committee determined to nominate an architect to the work distinct from the surveyor of the fabric. I had been myself a member of the executive committee, though I had not usually acted; but I attended at that time expressly to oppose this change, which I thought unfair towards Mr. Penrose; but, on its being carried, I advocated and voted for the nomination of Mr. Burges, thinking that his knowledge of iconography and of ecclesiastical art would, when united with Mr. Penrose's learning in the Classic and Renaissance styles, ensure a good result.

Mr. Burges's instructions were (roughly speaking) to follow Sir Christopher Wren's intentions, wherever they could be ascertained or inferred; but, where they failed, the directions were, not so much (as expressed in the programme) that "harmony was to be sought for to the fullest practicable extent with what he had proposed or done" (though this was suggested), as that reference should be made to the works of the best Italian artists of the sixteenth century. The reason, I presume, why the con-

tinuator of a work of the eighteenth century was referred back to artists of the sixteenth, was the impression that the revived classic of the earlier period had become more or less corrupted in the time of Wren, and that the lamp should be rekindled from its earlier flame. I know not whether this was ever made clear to Mr. Burges, nor do I know much,—excepting from the printed statements,—of the mutual arrangements and relations which have subsequently existed between that gentleman and those with whom he had to act; but it would appear from those statements that, where the most implicit freedom of communication and the greatest possible mutual confidence were essential,—the very reverse of these has on both sides existed. No wonder, then, at the utter chaos and confusion which has arisen!

I do not go into these particulars with a view to take either side on a question on which the public mind has been lashed almost into frenzy. Where one party is disposed to approve and the other utterly to condemn the whole of what is laid before them, woe to the ill-starred wight who ventures to suggest intermediate or moderate views. The exceptional character, however, of the subject is such as to outweigh all such risks, and my object in going into the matter is to urge the importance and the justice of an absolutely dispassionate investigation of all the questions at issue, each calmly and on its own merits. I do not think that this can possibly be done by those who have allowed themselves to become infuriated, and have committed themselves to desperate extremes, but I feel convinced that, if entered upon in a calm manner and a spirit of justice and good feeling, by persons at once qualified and uncompromised, the difficulties would one by one vanish, and that the highly talented architect and his eminent colleagues of his own and the sister arts would produce a result which might defy hostile criticism, and be acknowledged to be a system of treatment worthy of the great architect of whose work they are continuators. Mr. Burges is accused of speaking contumeliously of Sir Christopher Wren, and of not having paid due regard to his intentions; but who does not sometimes in an unguarded moment give vent to thoughtless expressions afterwards regretted, and who is the judge of Sir Christopher's intentions? Indeed, if Mr. Burges were disposed to carry the same accusations into the camp of his critics, he could readily obtain practical commentaries on both of these questions from the writings of our talented and valued friend, Mr. Fergusson, who may be shown to have repeatedly said about as hard things of Wren in good earnest as Mr. Burges, unhappily, seems to have said (let us hope) in jest; nay, that he has not long since proposed in a printed letter to the Dean, almost entirely to reconstruct Wren's choir, converting it bodily into a new and vast dome, of which he gives a design. This, however, he defends against all charges of irreverence for the great architect's intentions, such as he feels it right to press against Mr. Burges, by pointing it out to be composed of Wrennic elements, and by expressing his earnest conviction that, had Sir Christopher foreseen the change, it would have gladdened his death-bed, and it is almost suggested that, were it possible, he would even now signify his approval of the proposal.

Mr. Fergusson has more recently condemned *in toto* the use of mosaic so early and so publicly announced by the programme, and repudiated the Italian architects to whose works Mr. Burges had been so emphatically referred; so that, so far as he could look to that gentleman as a guide, poor Mr. Burges must find himself reduced to a state of supreme puzzlement, which seems to demand some new and unpledged agency to clear it away. Anyhow, unless some such step be taken, this noble project of completing St. Paul's, which has for years excited such lively interest, seems doomed to inevitable shipwreck; for, depend upon it, the Dean and Chapter will never incur the responsibility of making it over to amateurs. My personal wish would be to see the two architects working hand in hand, each supplying that in which his special strength lies, and both together guiding into unity the efforts of a band of the noblest artists whom our age can produce.

But, whatever may be the course pursued, I would urge that the work be one of completion and of decoration, and in no degree, however small, a work of architectural alteration. The public have long since accepted the one, but they justly reject the other; for, to use with a slight modification the words of an excellent modern writer (though they cut in one special instance, I am sorry to say, against myself):—

> "Patchwork improvements in the modern style,
> Bestow'd upon some venerable pile,
> Do but deface it,—structures to revise
> That *Wren* has built,—*another Wren* must rise."

The Royal Gold Medal.

I now come to a circumstance which has caused some feeling of vexation, though it has happily culminated in what would, but for a melancholy circumstance, have been the most agreeable item in the agenda of this evening. I refer to the award of the Royal Gold Medal for the year 1874.

Had the Council from the first determined to recommend as the recipient of the medal for this year an English architect, there would scarcely have been room for a doubt as to the architect whom they would have selected; but they, after careful consideration, thought that on this occasion the consideration should be limited to Englishmen distinguished for their literary productions in connexion with architecture,—and it was most natural that, under these conditions, the choice should fall on Mr. Ruskin.

That gentleman being abroad, we failed to obtain a reply from him to the intimation of our choice; and time pressing, the recommendation of the Council, after being ratified by the general meeting of the Institute, was communicated to her Majesty, and received her gracious approval.

To our great disappointment, we afterwards received from Mr. Ruskin a letter in which he declined to accept the proposed honour; a refusal which subsequent correspondence failed in inducing him to retract.

As the season was then far advanced, I suggested through General Sir Thomas Biddulph that the award might perhaps remain in abeyance for this year; but on receiving her Majesty's command to submit to her another name, the Council rescinded their former resolution, that an author rather than an architect should be recommended, and unanimously chose Mr. Street; a choice since confirmed by a general meeting of the Institute and graciously approved by the Queen.

In judging of the conduct of Mr. Ruskin in declining the proposed honour, a wide range of circumstance and sentiment demands our consideration. In my own personal communication to him on the subject, besides the apparent disregard which his refusal seemed to involve for the honour graciously offered by the Sovereign, I argued that he and our Institute were labourers in the same cause whether we define that cause as the advancement and perfecting of architectural art or the conservation of its ancient monuments and productions; that, in so far as we may have failed, we were sharers in that failure, and *vice versâ*; and that for him to refuse the sympathy of us—a corporation for these ends, as expressed towards himself—a corporation sole labouring in the same direction, was, to say the least, vexatious and inconsistent.

His ostensible reasons were the general havoc he found, whether in the form of "restoration" or of direct spoliation, to be made or making in all countries with ancient monuments; and I argued that we had for years had a standing committee for their defence, and were really doing actively and practically what he advocated for their preservation; so that to visit these misdoings on *us* would be the reverse of being just.

It may be reasonable, however, to modify our judgment by taking another view of the case. In doing this we may remember that Mr. Ruskin's position has ever been the raising of his protesting voice against the artistic or non-artistic vices of the age. Had we at once co-operated with him and been successful in stemming the course of these vices, it would on his view be consistent for us now to be giving and receiving compliments and congratulations; but, as he says, we took no notice twenty years back, when he lifted up his voice like a trumpet, and that now we desire to show sympathy we cannot point to a very practical result as a ground for our congratulations, but, on the contrary, are compelled to admit that the ancient monuments of every country in Europe, and our own no less than others, show at all points the marks of the desolating hand of pseudo-restoration or of open rapine.

The instances which Mr. Ruskin selects as representative of this deplorable class of facts are as follow:—

1st. The neglected and sordid condition of the tomb of Cardinal Brancaccio at Naples, which he views as the most important example in Europe of the architectural sculpture of the fifteenth century.

2nd. The conversion of the church of San Miniato, at Florence, the most beautiful example of the twelfth-century architecture in that city, into a common cemetery.

3rd. The destructive restorations carried on in the exquisite chapel Santa Maria della Spina, at Pisa.

4th. The recklessness with which the ruins of Furness Abbey have been dealt with by the railway engineers.

These four facts he considers only too illustrative of the general agency of the public, and of the builders employed by them, on the existing architecture of Europe; consisting in the injurious neglect of the most precious works, in the destruction under the name of restoration of the most celebrated works for the sake of emolument, and in the sacrifice of any and all to temporary convenience.

For the existence of this state of things he considers that we—the members actual and honorary of the Institute of British Architects—are assuredly answerable, at least in England; and under these circumstances, he says, he cannot but feel that it is no time for us to play at adjudging medals to each other, and must for his own part very solemnly decline concurrence in such complimentary formalities, whether as regards others or himself. For we have none of us, it seems to him, any right remaining either to bestow or to receive honours, and least of all those which proceed from the grace and involve the dignity of the British Throne. He concludes with an assurance of his personal respect for the members of the Institute, and of profound regret at finding himself compelled to decline their intended kindness and courtesy.

Now, all this may be viewed from two different points. We may, on the one hand, very fairly protest against the injustice of being made in any degree responsible for acts in which we have had no hand, over which we had no control, and against which we should protest as loudly as Mr. Ruskin; but, on the other hand, we being the incorporated representatives of architectural practice, may, in a certain sense, be held to represent its *vices* as well as its *virtues*, and in the eyes of a self-constituted censor, and one who from his first appearance before the public has devoted himself wholly to protest and warning, we can hardly wonder that, if he holds us thus responsible, he should not think it a time for us to be playing at compliments with our censor.

Read for a moment his expressions of righteous indignation directed nearly a quarter of a century back, and imagine what must be his feelings wherever he directs his steps. If he travels in France, he finds restoration so rampant that nothing which shows much of the hand of time is considered worthy of continued existence, but must be reworked or renewed, cleverly, artistically, and learnedly perhaps, but nevertheless *new work* taking the place of the *old work*, or the old work retooled till scarce a vestige of the surface on which the old men wrought so lovingly is allowed to remain. If he goes into Italy, much the same meets his eye. In his own Venice the Fondaco dei Tarchi, the most venerable secular Byzantine work, is rebuilt. At Rome he would observe a square mile almost excavated and carted away, which contained—discovered only to be in great measure destroyed—the ancient wall of Servius Tullius, 12 ft. thick of solid masonry, and against it a second Pompeii of antique Roman houses, hardly explored, but merely disinterred and carted away as rubbish. At Assisi he would find the works of Cimabue and Giotto in the hands of the restorer, though as I trust with better promise. In Belgium he would find ancient buildings chipped over and made to look like new; or, as is the case with the wonderful church of the Dominicans, at Ghent, deliberately destroyed. And, is the case much better in our own country? Has not the hand of false and destructive restoration swept like a plague over the length and breadth of our land, and are not those churches which have been treated with veneration and care a mere gleaning among those which have been dealt with in careless ignorance of any value to be attached to them? To Mr. Ruskin's eye the best of our restorations are mere vandalisms, for he protests against them root and branch; and to him all the difficulties and disappointments met with in carrying them out would be only so many reasons for reproaching us for having undertaken them at all. Anyhow, he would find in England far more than one half

of our ancient churches to have been so dealt with by ignorant and sacrilegious hands that one is ready to curse the day when the then youthful Cambridge Camden Society, all too sanguine and ardent, adopted for their motto the ominous words so sadly realized, "*Donec Templa refeceris.*" But *restoration* has not laboured alone in the work of Vandalism; deliberate destruction has been rife amongst us. Has not one great cathedral body deliberately pulled down its ancient hospitable hall of the fourteenth century, and another its stupendous tithe barn of the thirteenth? Near another cathedral, where the episcopal palace is formed out of a vast Norman hall, the sole remaining instance of a hall of that age supported by original timber pillars and arcades, I have only just now seen some of these timber arches lying as old material in a builder's yard, having been turned out I fear under the eye of a Fellow of this Institute for the purpose, to use Mr. Ruskin's own words, of "temporary convenience."

Knowing, then, who it is that we have sought to honour, great as was at first our dismay at his rejection of our advances, we need not, on consideration, wonder that he does not permit his ascetic voice to be softened by our proffered compliment, but rather exclaims with a fellow-ascetic of olden time: "Is it a time to receive money and to receive garments, and olive yards and vineyards?"—"It is no time for us to play at adjudging medals to each other."

Fully, however, as we may allow that we have in these days more cause for humiliation than for mutual gratulation, we cannot go so far as to admit that this deprives us of the right and privilege of giving honour where we know that honour is due. Great as are Mr. Ruskin's merits, they are in the main those of *words* rather than of *deeds*; we would fain have paid a tribute of acknowledgment to the utterer of these burning words, whether we may in all points agree with them or not; but our approaches having been repelled, we, in reconsidering our position, determined to transfer the honour to one who has shown himself great in actual and substantial works of the highest merit; and we feel that in doing so we honour also another powerful and instructive writer on architecture; and, while rescinding our resolution that "the consideration of the person to be recommended for the Gold Medal of 1874 be limited to Englishmen distinguished for their literary productions in connexion with architecture," and determining to recommend an English architect, we scarcely depart from the spirit of the resolution we rescind, for we are only adding to the qualifications it prescribed the more substantial merits of a practical architect. Mr. Ruskin says we have not any right remaining either to bestow or receive honours; but he, perhaps, reserves to himself the pontifical power of dispensation; and as he has somewhere pronounced of Mr. Street's greatest work in prospect, that it will be a source of perpetual delight to future generations, we may fairly presume that he has thereby exempted Mr. Street from the disability referred to. Anyhow, we will not only venture on acting instrumentally in the bestowing of this honour, but may go the length of congratulating ourselves on having been led by force of circumstances to a better choice than we had at first made.

I may say for myself that I had gone to the Council meeting with the intention of proposing Mr. Street, when the course of discussion led us to choose a man whom we might have guessed, had we sufficiently thought of it, would be likely to bring some theory to militate against our intentions, and who has really not done so much to merit this honour as Mr. Street; for, after all, an anathematiser of what is bad claims lesser honours than he who practically carries out what is good. Mr. Street, I feel, needs no laudation from me; but I cannot forbear to say a little in that direction. It was my privilege to know Mr. Street in very early life, when he had just completed the years of his pupilage. He was already a most devoted and advanced student of Mediæval architecture; so much so, that I have within the present year mistaken for old Mediæval work, details which I now believe were produced by him during his pupilage. From that time (the date I refrain from giving as it may betray my own antiquity) I knew Mr. Street in the most practical manner possible, till he commenced practice, and had every means of watching the rapid development of his artistic power, his intense devotion to his art, and his almost superhuman capability of hard work, and that in its most artistic form; added to his enormous study of ancient examples of the style to which he specially devoted himself. Since then his labours need no record; they have been ever before the public. He sprang suddenly into fame, and has been ever advancing more and more rapidly in the estimation of all who can appreciate genius and skill, till he has attained a point of eminence beyond which an architect need scarcely aspire.

I will not attempt to enumerate even a small selection of Mr. Street's works. They are sown broadcast over this and other countries, and it is our own fault if we are not personally acquainted with their excellencies. I will rather dwell on the *moral* side of Mr. Street's artistic character; his *steady pertinacity* in following on the great movement to which he from the first attached himself. I will not say that he has been wholly unmoved by the passing fluctuations of taste which ever and anon float over us; that would be to convert steadfastness into dull immobility; but he has adhered with absolute loyalty to the great revival, and that in its best form—the revival of the earlier, the most vigorous, and more perfect types of Mediæval art. For it is my opinion that no revival can be defended which is not based on the *best*, the *most pure*, and the *most vigorous* types of the style to be revived. Not only, then, has Mr. Street closed his ears to the siren's song which would lure him away from his great purpose by the quaint mysteries of the period when Gothic had been lost and Classic *not* regained, or by the blandishments of Queen Anne of blessed memory, but he has resisted in a great degree even that eclectiveness which would treat all the true varieties of Mediæval art as having an equal or even a joint claim to revival. I *envy* and *revere* this unbending steadfastness, and earnestly wish that it may prevail.

I alluded in my last year's address to Mr. Street's great and mighty work, the Law Courts, and expressed a hope that the threatened cutting down in costs would be reconsidered and relinquished. I know not how this matter may stand, but I repeat my earnest hope that in a work of so much magnificence and of so national a character, no petty economies will be allowed place, but that it may be carried out in all its integrity and nobleness. I have not that knowledge of the design which would warrant my offering any remarks upon it. I have alluded to Mr. Ruskin's expression of feeling, and will avoid thrusting my head into (what shall I say?) *the busy hive of critics*, though, as the industrious swarm seems just now to have settled under a neighbouring cupola, there, perhaps, at once to distil their sweet condiments, and to whet their spicula for another contest, I am probably shrinking from a danger which has ceased to exist. I will content myself with wishing all success to Mr. Street's great work.

But, as I have said before, Mr. Street's claims do not rest wholly on his structural works: he is an author of no mean eminence, and his book on "The Brick and Marble Architecture of Italy," and his "Gothic Architecture of Spain," will always stand forth as practical evidences of this fact, not to mention the more fugitive productions of his pen. These works are not only of the utmost value from the talent of their author, but more especially so as proceeding from one who has probably extended his studies and his wonderful powers of sketching to the Mediæval buildings to a greater number of countries and places than any other living man.

Since I wrote the above, an affliction of the heaviest form has fallen upon him whom we were rejoicing to honour. He has suddenly been bereft of the companion of his life, the sharer of his wonderful success, and the efficient and sympathising coadjutor in many of the labours, collateral, to say the least, to those which have rendered his career so brilliant. We have already, in our corporate capacity, expressed to him our deep condolences, and every member of this Institute will render him, silently or expressed, his own special tribute of heartfelt sympathy. We are necessarily, through this most sad event, deprived of the pleasure which would have arisen from a personal presentation of the Medal; and Mr. Street has deputed *his* valued friend and *ours*, Mr. Pearson, to receive it in his name.

Par nobile fratrum! Mr. Street is appropriately represented by a brother architect, whose works are well worthy to stand side by side with his own; and I hope to see the day when Mr. Pearson may receive this token of honour otherwise than as a deputy.

I beg you, my dear Mr. Pearson, to receive this Medal,—the gift of the Queen,—in the name of our common friend, Mr. Street, and to assure him of our admiration of his genius, and the share we one and all feel in his sorrow.

ORNAMENTAL GARDENING.

With that consistent effort at completeness in treating a subject which is so characteristic of French illustrative publications, the author of the great work on the "Parks and Promenades of Paris,"* recently completed, has prefaced his labours by an introduction giving, with almost the fulness of a separate treatise, a sketch of the progress and varieties of ornamental and landscape gardening at different periods, accompanied by numerous illustrations. The almost unwieldy size of the book will, we fear, prevent it from finding a place except in public collections and private libraries of some extent and pretension, and a look through the heads of M. Alphand's introductory treatise in commencing some account of the book, will not be without use.

"Gardens," says our author, "being the completion of the habitation of man, have undergone, in the same country, changes analogous to those which transform the house. Simple in their origin, and entirely devoted to the cultivation of useful vegetables, just as we find them now around our cottages, they have been enlarged and modified in proportion as the humble dwelling has become the palace,—in proportion as the manners of man have become perfected, and his more delicate perceptions acquired. The employment of the garden as a useful resource has been more and more restricted, or altogether abandoned. A work of art, of a most original type, and of great charm, has been little by little developed, forming a graceful setting for works of sculpture and of architecture."

In attempting to restore or describe the probable aspect of the gardens of antiquity, from the slender indications available of this nature, we fall back, thinks M. Alphand, on the unity of feeling in ancient art as compared with modern:—

"En les étudiant, on peut, à l'aide des fragments ou par analogie, ressusciter les choses disparues, leur restituer, avec quelque degré de certitude, la forme dont elles avaient été revêtues par les artistes de l'antiquité. Cet enchaînement, cette unité dans les créations artistiques, sont surtout visibles chez les nations antiques; l'isolement des artistes maintenant la pureté des types; le progrès se faisait lentement; c'était un épanouissement régulier, puissant, paisible, comme tout effort logique et suivi; cela ne ressemblait nullement à l'engouement léger de la mode, qui n'en fait que des œuvres médiocres et des imitations maladroites."

This latter remark is very well put as a discrimination between the spirit of ancient and modern taste,—the gradual and uniform development of the one in comparison with the rapid and contradictory changes of the other; but as an excuse for giving conclusions as to ancient gardening, with little or no facts to go upon, it will hardly stand. There are indications of the arrangement of gardens, certainly, in the incised records of Egyptian monuments (a specimen of which is engraved), leading to some conclusion as to the highly symmetrical arrangement of their gardens, with avenues and artificial basins or canals; a severe style of treatment to which all the indications of the architecture seem to point. In regard to the gardening of the Greeks, M. Alphand takes shelter, in default of absolute information, under that convenient "*devait être*" which comes so handy to the French critic, and for which one can only lament there is no adequate representative in English; "must have been" is a little too strong, and does not evade or glide over the confession of actual ignorance in so light and delicate a manner as the French formula supplies. In his conviction that the gardens of the Greeks "*devaient être*" of a symmetrical character in accordance with the architecture, M. Alphand is, however, at variance with some other critics, who refuse to see in Greek architecture that love of symmetrical arrangement which others find in it, and rather regard it as seeking the picturesque in irregularity of disposition and arrangement, though strictly symmetrical in detail. And the question whether Greek architecture does not really harmonise best with a somewhat picturesque and irregular laying out of the site, is at least an open one, if indeed it be not regarded as nearly decided (by the sites of the existing remains of Greek temples), against M. Alphand; who, in fact, speaks in another paragraph of "the grace with which their architecture allied itself to natural landscape." Another point in regard to the relation of Greek architecture to landscape, alluded to by the writer, is the use of

* Les Promenades de Paris: Bois de Boulogne, Bois de Vincennes, Parcs, Squares, Boulevards. Par A. Alphand, Inspecteur-général des Ponts et Chaussées, Directeur des Travaux de Paris, &c. J. Rothschild, Éditeur. Librairie de Société Botanique de France.

the module as the basis of proportion, which, he observes, "gave to their architecture an elasticity which permitted them easily to place the mass of the building *en rapport* with the natural lines of the ground, without altering its general disposition." There is, however, something to be said on both sides in regard to this; for one effect of this unaltering proportion was to obscure the scale of a building, and therefore to make a larger or smaller work than the average give a false scale to the landscape. If the Greeks had really the feeling for landscape with which M. Alphand credits them, it would be surprising that this should have escaped them; but we do not think there is evidence of anything whatever analogous to the modern feeling for landscape having existed in ancient Greece.

We have more indication of the ancient gardening taste of the Chinese and Japanese (at whom the author next glances), owing both to numerous conventional but sufficiently indicative representations on their works of art, and to the obviously unchanged character of their civilisation for a long period. From what we may fancy of the Greek garden, to what we know of the Japanese and Chinese one, is a long step. The whole disposition of these latter bears out as strongly as anything could the position taken by the author at starting, as to the relation between styles of gardening and national character or history. He rightly characterises the Japanese garden, with its little irregular clumps of trees, its wriggling walks and shapeless ponds, as "an idea arrested in development. . . . The workman, patient, and devoted to his work, has become clever at it; but the artist has only insufficient perceptions, and in consequence a very limited conception": a remark which might be equally applied to the whole circle of Japanese art, at present so disproportionately prized. It is the art of the workman, not of the artist. In the Chinese garden, again, how characteristic of the people, with their petty vanity and self-glorification (now diminishing, probably, under the influence of a wider European intercourse), is the aspect of their "little heaps of earth affecting the air of mountain-chains,—an error of proportion very common, but which does not in the least shock the Chinese artist, and which he frequently and advisedly commits."

Of the gardens of the Romans, M. Alphand observes that they were regular, though not strictly symmetrical; the pomp of imperial luxury demanding that the palace should be surrounded "by avenues adorned with "statues, by columns, obelisks, trophies, arches of triumph, &c. Whether this desire for a pompous conventionalism of appearance is connected with the sway of unlimited power, or whether modern instances of its development have only arisen from a desire to imitate and revive the style of the Roman empire in all its details, it might be difficult to say. It does seem a fact, however, that despotic power is seldom content with the beauty of landscape as it exists, but desiderates conventional and expensive improvements, as tangible evidences, perhaps, of unlimited wealth.

The gardens of the Middle Age, M. Alphand dismisses cursorily enough, as scarcely coming under the head of artistic work: only noticing the prevalence at this period of that taste for studiously intricate arrangements of alleys which subsequently became a known feature in gardening under the title of a "maze," as in the well-known though very paltry little specimen at Hampton Court. The plan of the garden of the Château de Gaillon is adduced as a specimen. It is, however, to the Renaissance that we are to look for the initiation of modern gardening.

"The Italians imitated and re-established the grand *villas* of the Romans. They raised, in the midst of magnificent sites, those charming summer palaces, surrounded by spacious gardens, of which we to-day admire the composition, at once learned and elegant. These gardens have been, to the modern epoch, the revelation of the art of landscape. They were not confined to providing merely plantations for shelter, spaces for rare flowers and for promenades. They realised a majestic decoration around the habitation, and opened up extensive prospects beyond the immediate site. Their contrivers made holiday with nature; they understood and loved her; they studied her effects, both graceful and grand; they arrived, in fine, at the true sentiment of art."

On this head our author quotes Messrs. Percier and La Fontaine (*Maisons de Plaisance*) to the effect that the gardens of this period in Italy,—

"Present the variety and the picturesque effect of modern gardens, with nothing of their monotony and puerile simplicity. They are planted regularly around the habitation, and it is always by an artistically-managed progression that, in receding from the mansion, they ally themselves with the rural aspect of the surrounding country. There is never, as we see among ourselves, a garden in which there is the pretence of making a site, a landscape, but on the contrary it is a site made into a garden. It is the art which has adorned nature, not that which pretends to create it."

This is a most important distinction; and there is no doubt that the best principle of gardening is that here (by implication) recommended, in which the garden is an artificial addition to the natural advantages of a site. We cannot, however, see reason altogether to condemn the practice of what may be called "constructed landscape" in a garden. This is an art which has its value, particularly in regard to the formation of public parks in the neighbourhood of large towns, and where often natural variety and interest of contour, or of grouping in the land, does not exist within convenient reach. The aspect of such work when in preparation, and until some years have removed its raw look and clothed it in a natural garment, is certainly rather painful to the mind. But eventually it may realise a beauty which could not have been obtained, perhaps, otherwise. We may compare on this head two parks not differing much in size, and subject to similar natural disadvantage of a flat site; Battersea Park, namely, and the park at Birkenhead, well known as one of Paxton's happiest efforts. The whole of the effect around the admirably-contrived artificial lakes in the latter, is an elaborately built-up landscape on a small scale, with its risings and depressions, and open glades. But at the present time, after an existence of from twenty to thirty years (if we remember rightly), it looks like nature, and has all the charm of a picturesque nook with its sloping banks crowned with varied foliage, whereas the park at Battersea, made (as our French critic would consider) on more honest principles, is perfectly prosaic and uninteresting to walk in, by comparison: it is simply a fenced-in tract, inclosing water, trees, and flowers, and will never be more. M. Alphand (to return) gives as specimens of the typical Italian Renaissance treatment, plans of the grounds of Villa d'Este, Villa Albani, and Villa Aldobrandini; possessing much the same characteristic features, contrasts of plantation or shrubbery with parterres laid out in symmetrically-arranged squares, and walks intersecting each other at right angles. In the Villa d'Este fortunate advantage was taken of the inclination of the land on one side of the grounds, so that the same kind of arrangement of the flower plats and mazes is seen on one side on the level, and on the other side arranged on a slope. In the Aldobrandini grounds the walks through the planted portion meet each other at varying, and (mostly) acute angles, like the pattern on a Moorish ceiling. It is doubtful how far this is an addition to the interest of the grounds or not; in general, perhaps it is pleasantest to find a little artifice in the walks, and not know precisely, always, whither your feet are tending, though, on the other hand, a symmetrical and rectangular arrangement certainly has more pomp and dignity. We would not, however, see gardens, even where these qualities are arrived at, divided into squares like a gridiron, as in the plan given of the Tuileries gardens in the sixteenth century. The necessity for artificial decorations to complete these symmetrical gardens is admitted. In all these Renaissance Italian gardens,—

"The lawns, the flower-gardens, the avenues, are accompanied by statues, arches, and columns. This decoration, borrowed from architecture and sculpture, is very suitable to the Italian gardens. It would be much less so in the North, where the foggy climate does not lend itself to these strong effects of light, so *saisissants* in the South. On the other hand, these regular perspectives require to be relieved by such accessories; their depth is increased by this succession of objects in bronze and marble, which break the monotony of a line of verdure too uniform, and which is not softened or shrouded by mists. . . . . Thus the artists of this land of sunshine have ably profited by all these resources, and thereby given life to those vast compositions which would otherwise have remained cold and dull. These pompous creations are admirably in harmony with the brilliant epoch which produced them."

The garden architects of the French Renaissance did not realise the nobility of effect of their Italian compeers, and they failed to do so from a want of breadth and largeness in their treatment of the ground, and from a slavish bondage to veritable symmetry,—the precise reflection of one half of the design in the other half. From this over-estimate of symmetry proceed, too, those monstrosities of architectural decoration in verdure,—trees and hedges tortured into piers and pediments and balustrades,—which are to be found preserved in plates of the period. Nature herself fought against this interference with her liberties, and the constant attention required to keep her free growths duly clipped and sheared into the form and dimensions thus imposed on them, may have conduced a great deal to their abandonment. Of the ornamental *parterres* which were such a feature in the French gardens one may think with more favour; the system was carried too far; but a very brilliant and by no means unsuitable effect is obtained by this treatment of masses of bright and contrasted flowers in symmetrical *bordures*, wherever and whenever plenty of bright sunshine can be counted upon. Under any other aspect they look melancholy enough, and it may be questioned whether the adoption of this system in English gardens at present to so great an extent, is altogether to be commended. There are comparatively few days with us, even in the summer months, when this kind of effect can be seen to advantage. That another kind of treatment has been recognised for a long time as suitable to England, one is reminded by the heading in the book we are speaking of, "Jardins irréguliers ou agrestes, *dits Jardins Anglais*." M. Alphand mentions a theory that these gardens (rare in Italy) were inspired by the poems of Milton and Pope; a curious combination to name, for certainly Pope's tastes were artificial and French enough. Milton also in his early days seems to have partaken of the taste for symmetrical gardens (gathered perhaps from his visit to Italy), if we may conclude so from his description of "retired Leisure,"—

"That in trim gardens takes his pleasure."

It was only later that there grew on his mind that conception of the natural garden:—

"Which not nice art
In beds and curious knops, but Nature boon
Pour'd forth profuse o'er hill and dale and plain,"—

the Eden,—

"Wild without rule or art, enormous bliss,"—

in regard to which the latter adjective is so curiously used in its original literal Latin sense. But our author has no faith in this poetical origin of the *jardins agrestes*.

"The truth is that these gardens have been created in the north, because it is the climate which really suits them. England has never been attached like France and Italy, to the Classic style, to the architecture of symmetry; she repels, at the present day, the systematic formulas to which our artists are subjected. Must we attribute this to her insular situation, which isolates her from other nations; or rather to that facility for travelling [*pour les voyages*; he perhaps means voyages in the English sense] which permits her artists to visit peoples having very different arts? We think the credit must be given mainly to the climate.

In that misty atmosphere, where the landscape is *doucement estompé* [whatever that very vague phrase may mean], the distances detach themselves in successive masses, which take bluish tones as they recede. The sun sometimes projects shadows which detach strongly the main objects on brilliant backgrounds; sometimes throws out the foreground in strong light, against a background bathed in grey mist. One can imagine nothing more poetic than these landscapes of faint tones, and which the movement of the mists seems to animate. It is a beauty ceaselessly modified by unexpected effects, and which cannot reproduce itself in the landscape of the south, bathed in an unchanging light. Thus the regular dispositions, of which the effect is imposing in Italy, lose much of their value under the cloudy sky of the North. In England, but more especially in Scotland, the landscapes are admirable, less owing to the richness of the vegetation than by the contrast which is produced by the play of light. Its inhabitants were bound to endeavour to take part with these natural phenomena. They have, therefore, composed gardens where Nature keeps the *premier rôle*. . . . . A pasturage, where are placed here and there clumps of large trees, beyond which recedes the horizon, streaked with lines of light and blue shadows; a river, or a piece of water, reflecting the sky and the willows which grow on its banks" (he need not have confined us to willows), "these are the primary elements of the English garden, or rather of the *jardin agreste* of the North. This *ensemble* of extreme simplicity would be little remarkable under a bright sky, which would bring out [*accuserait*] uniformly each detail; but it assumes a most enticing aspect under the changing sky of England, Holland, or the North of France. No doubt a great many *jardins réguliers* have lately been planted in England; but these have been imitations, and not creations conformable to the genius of the country. Art differs according to latitude; and all the more so when we deal with a branch of art which has for its end the embellishment of Nature herself."

We have thought it worth while to translate the foregoing as a very well judged comment on the characteristics of English landscape, not always so well appreciated in regard to its real beauties by critics of another country. Having touched upon the leading typical styles of gardening, illustrated in M. Alphand's treatise, we may consider in a further article some of his suggestions as to the practical carrying out of these different phases of the art of landscape gardening; and give a fuller notion of the book itself and its illustrations.

THE NEW BUILDINGS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

The first portion of the additions to the National Gallery are now almost completed. The newly-erected block is situated at the north-east side of the present building, and is 167 ft. in length and 142 ft. in depth, covering a ground area of about 13,720 superficial feet. The building consists of a basement and ground-floor, in addition to the several spacious apartments above, forming the new galleries. The basement and ground-floor both contain a large number of rooms, those in the basement being chiefly for stores. It also contains a spacious boiler-house. The rooms on the ground-floor are intended mainly to be set apart for male and female students, and one portion will be used as offices. The principal part of the structure is the upper portion of the building, which contains the several new galleries for the exhibition of works of art. These are approached through the existing galleries by a new entrance connecting them, and which leads into a large and handsome octagonal hall, 43 ft. in diameter, covered in with a domical roof, of iron and glass, which internally will be again filled in with embossed glass. At the angles of this hall there are openings leading into four vestibules, each about 36 ft. by 30 ft. The several openings or approaches to the vestibules are ornamented on each side by double columns, consisting of rich Genoa green marble. The columns are surmounted by moulded arches, supporting a deep cornice and coved ceiling in panels. In immediate contiguity to the vestibules are the several new galleries, three in number, and situated on the east, the north-east, and the north sides respectively. They are all lofty, and occupy a large area, the east gallery being 96 ft. by 40 ft.; the north-east gallery, which is octagonal in form, 40 ft. in diameter; whilst the large gallery at the north end is 120 ft. in length by 40 ft. in width. The height of the several galleries is 32 ft. from the floor-line to the face of the ceiling, which in the centre is inclosed with embossed glass, uniform with that part of the building already described. The large gallery has a groined and coved ceiling, the ceilings of the east and north-east galleries being coved and panelled. The height of the hanging space to the architrave of the cornice is about 19 ft. A plinth of black Belgian marble, is carried entirely round the several galleries and vestibules, as well as round the doorways. The whole of the plaster work and mural decoration is executed in Parian cement. In the construction of the roofs of the building iron has been chiefly used, although the flooring is to be of wood; and, as a protection against fire, iron sliding doors divide each gallery. The four vestibules and octagonal central hall are being finished with a view to the exhibition of works of art as well as the galleries. It is expected that the new galleries will be ready for the reception of paintings and other works of art early in 1875, and in the meantime it may be stated that they already favourably contrast with the appearance of some of the existing galleries.

Mr. E. M. Barry, R.A., who was appointed architect of the new National Gallery in 1868, has designed the buildings, which have been erected by Mr. G. W. Booth, of Gosport and London, under the superintendence of Mr. Roome, as clerk of works; Messrs. Head, Williams, & Co., of Cannon-street, having executed the iron and engineering work. The cost of the buildings is upwards of 80,000*l.*

The block approaching completion is only a section of the intended new National Gallery, according to Mr. Barry's plans, the rebuilding of the present frontage in Trafalgar-square, together with a new elevation to St. Martin's-lane, being contemplated, as well as the extension of the building westward at the rear of the Trafalgar-square elevation, including the construction of a new grand staircase. It is, however, uncertain when the new structure named will be proceeded with; as although the last Conservative Government stated in 1868 that it was then intended to proceed immediately with the new building, no steps have since been taken with this object, excepting those which we have above described.

Designs for the Improved Dwellings Company.—The directors, in reply to their offered premiums of 250*l.* and 150*l.*, have received twenty sets of drawings, about 100 in all, and intend inviting professional assistance in awarding the prizes.

ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, MARKHOUSE-ROAD, WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

The consecration of this church took place on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., by the Lord Bishop of Rochester.

The plan of the church consists of nave and aisles, chancel, with north and south aisles (that on the north side being appropriated as vestries for clergy and choristers), and apsidal sanctuary at the east end. The entrances are through the tower, which is situate at the north-west angle of the church, by a porch at the south-west angle, and by two smaller doorways on the north and south sides at the east end of the nave. The principal of these entrances is through the tower, and is elaborately groined in stone. The nave is in five bays, and over the arches is a lofty and well-developed clearstory, with a range of two-light windows, with solid panels between them, in which are represented alternately the Lamb and the Pelican, and smaller medallions containing the various symbols of our blessed Lord and His Passion. The western portion of the chancel is arranged as a presbytery, and is raised three steps above the floor of the nave, the platform on which the altar stands being elevated five additional steps. The easternmost compartment of the apse has a three-light window, with early geometrical tracery in the head, fitted with stained glass, by Mr. Daniel Bell, representing our Lord in majesty, with the heavenly hierarchy and the peoples of the earth in the act of adoration before him. The organ, not yet completed, will be placed on the north side of the chancel.

The tower is surmounted by a lofty spire, and contains a musical peal of eight bells, by Messrs. Warner, of Jewin-crescent, Cripplegate.

The architecture of the church is that of the latter part of the thirteenth century, and the material of which it is built is, externally, Tisbury stone and Kentish-rag walling. The arches, window-dressings, quoins, &c., internally, are of Corsham Down stone, and the walling of hassock; all the doors, seats, and woodwork generally are of oak; and the pavements are laid with Godwin's tiles. The church, with endowment and vicarage, is provided at the sole cost of Messrs. Knowles & Foster, Moorgate-street.

The architect of the church is Mr. Francis T. Dollman, and the contractors are Messrs. Henshaw. The clerk of the works is Mr. Samuel Burbridge.

DANGER OF BUILDING OVER MINES.

On Michaelmas-day last, a large dwelling-house was swallowed up at Gilberton, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., under circumstances proving the great danger of building over mining ground. The house in question stood over a coal-field and the outcrop of a vein, and when the coal was taken away there was nothing left for its support but a few feet of earth. A heavy rain loosened the soil, and on the day in question the inmates of the house happened to observe their little garden-patch sinking below.

They had but just time to snatch up their clothes and a few valuable articles, and run for their lives, before the house began to rock, then fell over and disappeared, roof foremost, in the abyss, followed by an avalanche of rock and earth which quickly buried it. Had it occurred in the night the loss of life would have been great.

In our own country, some parts of the town of Sheffield, it is stated on good authority, stand over an abyss, and the like fate to the above may some day befal those houses.

COCKERMOUTH CASTLE.

This castle occupies the point of a steep and, in part, rocky knoll which intervenes between the confluence of the Derwent and the Cocker, two rivers of Cumberland, the one, on the north, flowing immediately at the foot of the rock, the other, on the south and west, separated from it by an irregular strip of land from 50 to 70 yards broad, of uneven surface, and covered by a part of the town which shares its name with the castle. It is not until 120 yards below the castle that the actual meeting of the waters takes place. Two of the sides of the position are thus fortified by nature; the other, the root of the promontory, has no such protection. It seems to have been covered by an artificial ditch, connecting the cliff of the Derwent with the sloping bank of the Cocker. This, however, has been filled up, and all that remains of it is a tradition, confirmed by slight depression in the soil.

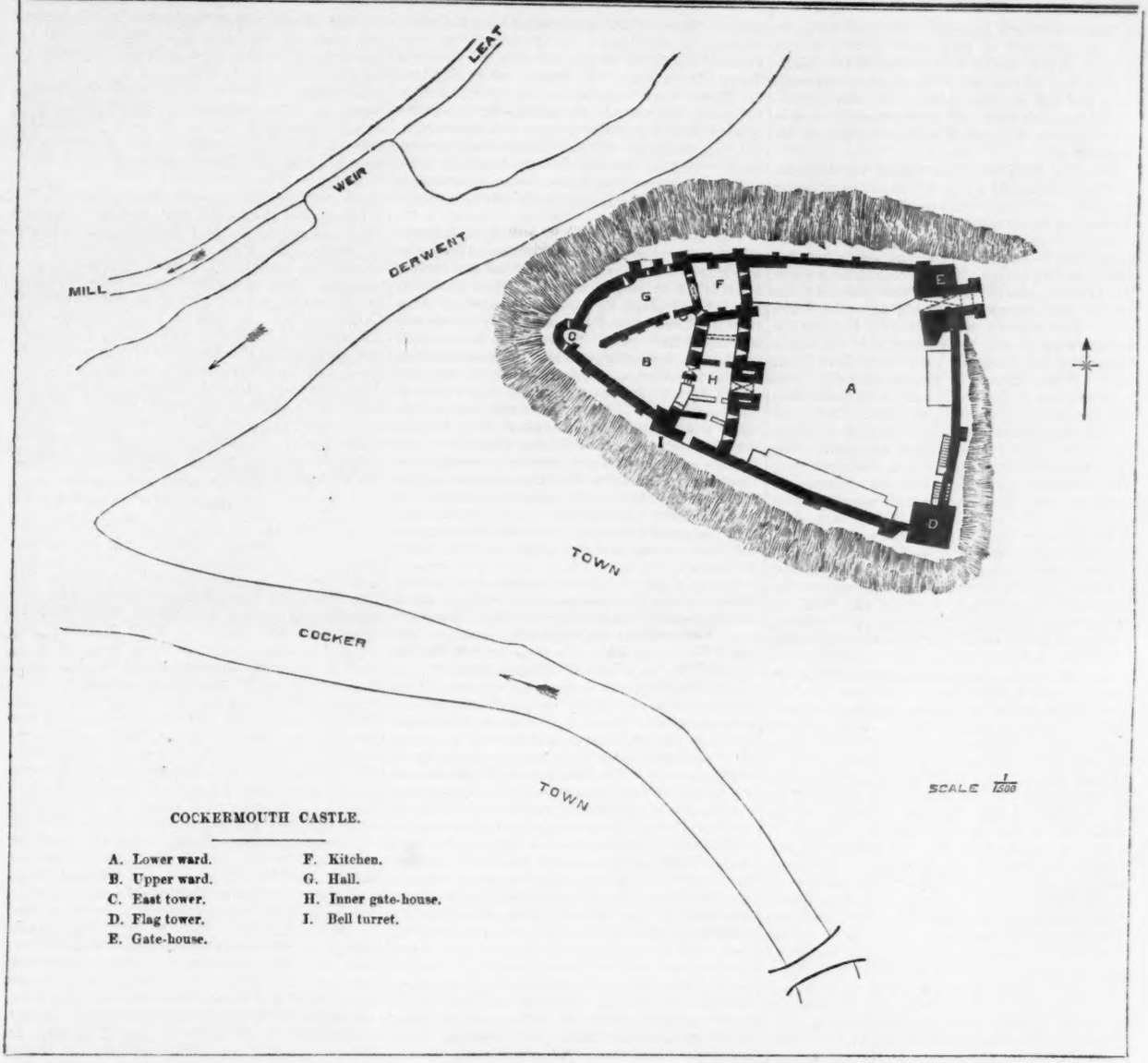
The castle, following the outline of the rock, is triangular in plan. Its north and south sides face towards the Derwent and the Cocker, and are in length 110 yards and 120 yards. They crest the slope at about 36 ft. above the level of the water, and are connected by a base line of 76 yards, in which is the entrance, facing towards the east. The castle commands much of the town, and is placed outside of it to the north and east. The parish church stands within the town upon a height opposite to and south-west of the castle, the Cocker in its narrow valley flowing between them.

The curtain within which the castle is contained, is about 30 ft. high, and is capped at its western or acute angle by a half-round tower, and at the two angles of the base are two rectangular towers, that to the north-east being the gatehouse. Between them is a small buttress turret, solid and 8 ft. square. There are also two rather large buttresses, additions upon the south curtain near the east end, and three small flat ones upon the older front of the wall, at the west end. On the exterior of the north wall are seven buttresses of various dimensions and dates.

The triangular interior of the castle is subdivided by a cross line of buildings, about 60 yards from the base, into two wards, the lower or eastern, four sided, being the larger, and the upper or inner being a small triangle. Where the cross wall unites at its south end with the curtain is, upon the latter, a small square tower, called the "Bell Tower," and at the north end a much larger tower, containing the kitchen. Between these, on the cross wall, is the inner gatehouse. The level of the upper ward is about 6 ft. above that of the lower. This gatehouse is not central, being 34 yards from the north, and 19 yards from the south curtain. It is rectangular or nearly so, and in plan a capital T, the outer portal being in the centre of the cross head, the inner one in the foot, and a large chamber in the stem between them. The head is 36 ft. broad with a projection of 18 ft., and the gatehouse is 60 ft. deep. The cill of the outer entrance being 6 ft. above the outer ward, must have been approached by some kind of bridge or inclined plane, of which all traces are now gone. The outer arch is lofty and segmental, of 9 ft. opening. It supports a screen parapet, embattled, behind which is an opening or machecoule 9 ft. broad and 4 ft. deep. Behind this is an equilateral arch opening into a passage 10 ft. deep, vaulted and ribbed from the four angles, the ribs meeting at the centre with two ridge ribs, the central point of the eight being without boss or circle. Beyond the passage is a second arch of 8 ft. opening, and beyond it a sort of vaulted passage or vestibule splayed and 9 ft. deep, opening into the interior of the gatehouse at the first-floor level. Beyond and right and left of this inner vestibule are two doors of 2 ft. opening, one segmental and one shoulder-headed. These open each into a small acutely-vaulted prison, about 8 ft. by 16 ft., lighted by a small loop. From each there opens, in the outer wall, a small door into a mural garderobe. In the centre of each prison is a small square trap which is the only opening into a lower prison or dungeon of the size of and vaulted as the upper one, but without any other opening. Two holes in the upper vaults seem intended to carry a horizontal bar from which a prisoner or his food might be lowered through the trap. These prisons are placed on each side of and parallel to the gateway, in the thick cross head of the T.

The basement of the gatehouse-chamber, 21 ft. broad by 29 ft. deep, and about 10 ft. high, is quite plain, and without loops. It is entered in the west wall, from the upper ward, by a flight of twelve steps, beneath a lancet doorway. The covering of this room was the timber floor of the gatehouse. This first-floor, also 21 ft. by 29 ft., has in its side-walls two doorways, of 3 ft. opening, and acutely pointed, which led into the lateral chambers. In its west wall, but near the north end, is the inner gateway, piercing a wall 9 ft. thick, and opening into the upper ward. This passage is vaulted. It has no portcullis, and but one rebate for a door. In the north side of the passage a narrow, shoulder-headed door leads into a small vaulted lodge, looped towards the upper ward.

Entering this ward, on the left, is the door descending to the basement, and further on, right and left, are two doors, each lancet, and at the top of flights of twelve steps, which descended into the basements of the lateral chambers. The gatehouse had an upper floor, now mostly gone.



COCKERMOUTH CASTLE.

A. Lower ward.
B. Upper ward.
C. East tower.
D. Flag tower.
E. Gate-house.
F. Kitchen.
G. Hall.
H. Inner gate-house.
I. Bell turret.

There were two lateral chambers on each side of the gatehouse, parted by an east-and-west cross-wall, now destroyed. The large spaces thus formed are not quite rectangular. That on the north averages about 26 ft. east and west by about 35 ft. north and south; and that on the south is a mean square of about 35 ft. Of the four chambers by which these spaces were occupied, the basements of the two next the gatehouse were covered with a pointed vault. Except these, the floors above were timber. The walls of the southern rooms are mostly destroyed, those of the northern are tolerably perfect, and show the windows and fireplaces of a first and second floor, with small mural chambers in the north-east angle. The southern chamber abutted upon the curtain, in which is seen a rude round-headed arch, now a postern, but which has a Norman aspect, and looks as though intended originally for the recess of a loop. The small square bell-turret, of about 18 ft. by 10 ft., at the south-west angle of this chamber, stands upon and slightly projects from the exterior of the curtain. The basement looks of the age of the curtain; the superstructure, of that of the cross-buildings and inner gatehouse.

At the other or north end of the cross buildings is the kitchen tower, a very remarkable structure. In plan it is nearly rectangular. It is composed of a basement and a first floor. The basement is reached from the upper ward by fifteen descending steps, down a vaulted passage in the wall, at the head of which is a round-headed door of Decorated date. The chamber is about 30 ft. square, having a central octagonal pier without base or cap, whence spring eight ribs meeting eight other ribs which spring from corbels in the angles and from responds in the centre of each face. Each of the four bays thus formed is again spanned by ribs springing diagonally from the responds. There are no ridge-ribs, and the vaulting spaces are filled up with rubble. The arches are pointed, and the vault about 20 ft. high. In the two eastern spaces are square-headed loops, opening on the lower ward and now concealed by a modern building. In the north wall is a small water-drain. This was probably a cellar, introduced and vaulted to place the stone floor of the kitchen on the level of the hall. It is called a chapel, but bears no indication of having been intended or ever used as such.

Above the cellar is the kitchen, the floor of which is level with that of the hall, and about 10 ft. above that of the upper ward. In plan it is rather rhomboidal than rectangular. The two eastern angles are right angles, that to the north-west acute, and that to the south-west obtuse. The north and east sides measure 35 ft. and 37 ft., and the opposite sides 29 ft. and 38 ft. respectively. In the south wall are two fireplaces, 11 ft. broad by 2 ft. deep, with remains of stone hoods, and with square vertical funnels running up a common shaft at the inner end of each fireplace. The funnels also receive those from the fireplaces in the rooms to the south; the whole forming one stack. Over these fireplaces, high up in the south wall, is a large long loop, square-headed, and about 2 ft. wide. In the east wall are two other loops of the same width, and about 24 ft. long, crossed by a transom, square-headed, but placed within shoulder-headed recesses. These openings are clearly intended to carry off the vapour. North of these loops is a small door, whence a narrow mural stair ascends 10 ft. to a second door that opened upon a gallery along the north wall.

In the centre of the north wall is a bold pier, 7 ft. wide by 4 ft. deep, from which spring laterally two pointed arches, thus forming two recesses. The soffits are ribbed, one with two and one with three ribs, plainly chamfered. In each recess is a loop, square-headed, and opening on the curtain, and above, 10 ft. from the floor, is a string which supported the floor of a timber gallery, which ran along this north side, and was carried out in front of the pier, and thus overlooked the culinary operations. It was entered at the east end from the door already mentioned. In its west end was another door, opening into a mural chamber, not now accessible, but which may have communicated with the hall. Above the gallery were two other loops. At the gallery level the pier is pierced by two narrow passages, with round-headed doors, which lead to a small common chamber in the curtain, probably a garderobe. Below, the lateral faces of the pier are hollowed, as for cupboards.

The west wall of the kitchen is now chiefly occupied by a large lofty arch, of 15 ft. span, and about 30 ft. high, evidently a modern insertion together with the wall above, and opening into what was the hall. On the south side of it are traces of a part of the old buttery-hatch. To the north is the only door of the kitchen, 4 ft. broad, and shoulder-headed, and which opened from the lower end of the hall. It is curious that so large a kitchen should have had no other outlet. Grose gives a drawing taken in 1774, which shows this west wall of the kitchen before

the great arch was inserted. The wall contains an immense hole or gap, above which, on the outside, is the weather moulding of the high-pitched roof of the hall. The kitchen was very lofty, and had an open timber roof, the corbels for the hammer-beams of which remain. Above was a parapet, one side of which belonged to the outer curtain.

Abutting from the west wall of the kitchen, in the rebuilding of which the moulding showing the pitch of the hall roof has been removed, was the east, or lower end of the hall, a building 30 ft. wide by about 50 ft. long, of which the curtain formed the north side. The south wall is levelled nearly to the ground, but its foundations show its exterior buttresses, and the place of the door in the basement near the east end of the wall. The western wall, dividing it from the withdrawing-room, is gone. The basement below the hall seems to have been about 10 ft. high. It was covered by the timber floor. The entrance was in the south wall, close to the east end, probably by an interior stair. One jamb of the doorway remains, richly moulded in the Decorated style, though much decayed. The hall had three large windows in the north wall, which is strengthened outside by three buttresses, evidently added to the older wall when the hall was built. The windows are of the fashion so common in the halls of Decorated castles. They are of two lights trefoiled, with a transom, and in the head a quatrefoil. That next the east end has a stone window-seat, and the others may have been so provided. Outside, the windows have a good dripstone. Probably the fireplace was in the south wall. In the east wall, near the south end, is a large plain trefoil-headed recess, not even chamfered, resembling a large piscina, with a stone shelf. It was possibly intended to place the dishes upon when received from the adjacent buttery-hatch. South of this a small door leads into a well-stair, which led to the roof, and is lighted by a small and very neat foliated circle. The cant or filling up of the adjacent angle of the kitchen is produced by this staircase. The hall had an open timber roof, some of the corbels of which remain.

The rooms west of the hall extend to and include the western or angle tower. The room next the hall had two large Tudor windows in the curtain; they are flat-topped of three lights, with a transom, and within flat-arched recesses; they are evident insertions. The interior of the west tower is roughly four-sided, and the gorge wall is gone. It had a basement with three loops, with large splayed-pointed recesses, and above were three floors, each with an excellent one-light trefoiled window, of Decorated date; the two lower are towards the west; the upper, a marked feature in the view of the castle from the town, is towards the south. In the north wall a straight stair leads up to a mural garderobe, the opening of which is projected upon two corbels high up at the junction of the curtain with the tower. The lower part of this tower seems original; the upper part has been rebuilt, no doubt in the Decorated period. 22 ft. in the rear of the tower remains the base of a doorway which led into these chambers from the upper ward. The well was a yard or two from the entrance to the room below the hall. Its place is now marked by a pump.

The *lower ward* is much obscured by the erection against the north curtain of a dwelling-house, and against the south, of stables, both modern. A building has also been placed against the east wall, connected with the gatehouse. The south-eastern angle is formed by the *flag-tower*, 32 ft. square, and projecting outwards about 9 ft. upon the two curtains. It has a basement and two upper floors, each entered from the court, and the two latter by external separate stone stairs. A third stair, also exterior, ascends from the east curtain to the battlements. The arrangement is altogether peculiar. Moreover, the roof of the tower is high-pitched, having the south gable stepped and, in the Scottish fashion, flush with the outer wall, while the north gable is set in about 3 ft. so as to allow of a rampart walk along three sides of the tower. The tower is occupied, and locked up.

The tower corresponding to this, and forming the north-east angle of the ward, is the gatehouse. It is rectangular, 50 ft. broad by 22 ft. deep, and pierced by the gateway passage, with spacious rooms on each side and above, all inhabited. The outer gateway is roundheaded, and rather less than half a circle. The passage is vaulted, and has rebates for a central and two outer doors, of which that next the entrance seems to have been inserted to replace a portcullis. Over the front, beneath a long flat label, are five shields of arms: 1. What seems to have been a cinquefoil within an orle of crosslets flory, Umfranville. 2. Barry of 6, Multon. 3. Three luces haurient, Lucy. 4. A lion rampant, Percy. 5. A saltire, Nevile. The gatehouse has two floors over the gateway in the Perpendicular style, and later than the lower part, which is Decorated. To this has been added an upper story, built into the battlements of that below, which appear in the face of the wall.

The portal is flanked by two flat pilasters, which have been partially concealed by the addition of a *barbican*, composed of two lateral walls of 18 ft. projection, and 7 ft. 6 in. thickness, terminating in square piers, which supported a cross arch of entrance, over which was a parapet, now gone. These walls were about 12 ft. high, parapeted, and the ramparts reached by two lateral straight stairs niched in the wall. There was no doubt originally a drawbridge to the main gate, which may have been moved forward when the barbican was added. Grose's drawing shows a sort of ravelin of earth in front of this outer entrance, which probably was thrown up during the Parliamentary struggles. All this front, outside the walls, has been levelled and converted into a garden and approach. Outside the north and south curtains, between the wall and the top of the slope, is a walk of about 9 ft. broad.

The accounts of this castle claim for it a very remote origin, and describe the knoll upon which it stands as artificial. This, however, is not the case. The knoll is evidently natural, and the point of a tract of high land which is bounded by two rivers. The position is not the less strong, and is such as either Britons, Romans, or Saxons might very well have availed themselves of. There is, however, no positive evidence that they did so, and nothing now seen is of necessity older, or as old, as the reign of the Conqueror. The foundations of the western tower, and of the greater part of its contiguous curtains, so far as they contain the upper ward, are probably Norman, and may be the work of William de Meschines, in the reign of Henry I. As the works could scarcely have been confined to so small an area as the present upper ward, it is probable that the whole of the present area was included in the Norman castle, and that the cross ditch was then excavated. How the area was then occupied, where was the hall, where the kitchen, does not appear, probably not on the present site, seeing that the windows are evident insertions in, and the buttresses additions to, the north curtain. Moreover, no part of the line of buildings dividing the upper from the lower ward shows any trace of Norman work. Whatever or wherever were the Norman buildings, they probably stood until the Decorated period, or early in the fourteenth century, when the present cross buildings, the kitchen and the hall, seem to have been erected, and much of the curtain rebuilt or strengthened.

The outer gatehouse and the south-eastern tower are not unlikely to be of the same date, though there have been large additions to, and alterations in, the former building, in the Perpendicular period, when the barbican was added. The Tudor windows in the upper ward are the only traces of still later alterations. The effects of the Parliamentary strife upon the building, beyond the removal of the roofs, do not appear to have been serious; and as the gatehouse seems always to have been inhabited, no doubt some sort of attention was paid to it, and to the flag-tower. More recently, a dwelling-house has been built within the area, within one window of which hangs a curious relic of the past, in the shape of an escutcheon of Percy and Lucy quartered, in old stained glass.

The remodelling of the Norman castle in the Decorated period was probably the work of Anthony de Lucy, who held the lordship from the 2nd of Ed. II. to the 17th Ed. III., and was an active soldier, a great military chief in the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and likely enough to put into the best possible order a castle important both to his own estates and to the national frontier committed to his charge.

The Perpendicular additions, including the armorial shields over the gateway, must have been later than the 22nd of Richard II., when Maud, the Lucy heiress, carried Cockermouth Castle to Henry Percy, who agreed to quarter her arms. The Umfranville shield commemorates Maud's first husband, Gilbert, Earl of Angus. The Nevile shield is that of Henry Percy's first wife, who was a daughter of Ralph Lord Nevile. As this Henry was a very considerable person and survived till 1408, it is probable that he built or rebuilt the upper part of the gatehouse between 1388-9 and 1408.

Cockermouth Castle has but a scanty history, which, perhaps, accounts for the perfect condition of its outer walls. In 1221 Henry III. ordered it to be laid siege to, and, if taken, destroyed; but this fate it either escaped, or, if carried out, it was restored a century later with great completeness. It makes no figure in the Wars of the Roses, nor does it appear to what extent it shared in the vicissitudes of the house of Percy. The town seems to have been taken by surprise in 1387 by a band of Scottish marauders. Mary of Scotland rested here, no doubt in the castle, on her way from Workington to Carlisle, after her landing in Cumberland. In August, 1648, the castle, held for the Paliament, was attacked by the Royalists of the neighbourhood, and held out a month, till relieved by the Parliamentary General Ashton. It seems to have been spared the usual fate of English castles of that period at the hands of one or the other party. In 1688 the only habitable parts were the gateway and the courthouse, probably the adjacent building.

DESCENT.

Cockermouth was the "caput" of the barony of Allerdale, usually called in the Inquisitions the Honour of Cockermouth. There is no collected list of the lands held of the Honour, but they seem to have been extensive, and are specified in divers inquisitions from time to time, with the names of their holders. The original grantee seems to have been *William*, brother of the well-known Ranulph de Meschines, Earl of Chester. He received, either from the Conqueror or from Henry I., the territory of Copland, between the Dudden and the Derwent, and was probably the founder of the Castle of Cockermouth, as he was of the Monastery of St. Bees. His son *Ranulph* died childless, and his heir was *Cicely*, who married Robert de Romilly, Lord of Skipton. Cockermouth came to *Alice*, their third daughter and co-heir, who married William FitzDuncan, Earl of Moray, in Scotland, nephew to King Malcolm. *Amabel*, their second daughter and co-heir, had Egremont, and married Reginald de Lucy, living 20 Hen. II.; while *Cicely*, the elder daughter, married Wm. le Gros, Earl of Albemarle, who died 1179. Their second daughter, *Hawise* le Gros, married, first, William de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, and second, William de Fortibus, in her right Earl of Albemarle, and who (1215) had restored to him by King John the manor of Cockermouth, and (1216) certain confiscated lands held of the Honour. In February, 1221, King Henry ordered the Sheriff of Westmoreland to summon his forces to lay siege to, take, and utterly destroy the Castle of Cockermouth; but later in the year the manor was granted again to the Earl. It is said that this Earl held half the castle, which was escheated to the Crown, and was granted in 1323 by Edward II. to Anthony, Lord Lucy, who held the other moiety. The descent, however, is exceedingly obscure. It appears that *Richard* de Lucy, Amabel's son, had Egremont, and died about 15 John, leaving Amabel and Alice. His wife, Ada de Morville, married secondly Thomas de Multon, and left issue, while Multon's two sons by a former wife married—1. Lambert de Multon to Amabel; and 2. Alan de Multon to *Alice*, the co-heirs.

Lambert's great-granddaughter, the heiress of Egremont, married Thomas de Lucy, and Alan's son, *Thomas* de Multon, took the name of Lucy, and died 33 Ed. I., and probably held the Castle of Cockermouth. He was followed by his sons, *Thomas*, who died childless, 2 Ed. II., and *Anthony* de Lucy, a great baron and military leader in the Western marches. He died 17 Ed. III., leaving *Thomas* de Lucy, who died seized of Cockermouth Castle and Honour 39 Ed. III., having married his remote cousin, Margaret de Multon, the heiress of Egremont, and thus re-united the whole inheritance, the second moiety of Cockermouth having been acquired by his father.

Thomas and Margaret had *Anthony*, de Lucy aged twenty-four 39 Ed. III., and Maud. Anthony had *Joan*, who died young, 43 Ed. III., seized of the castle and honour, when *Maud* became the heiress. She married Gilbert de Umfranville, Earl of Angus, who died 4 Rich. II. They had but one son, Sir Robert, who pre-deceased his father, childless. The earl died 4 Rich. II., seized of the castle and honour, and Maud, then, 8 Rich. II., married

Henry de Percy, Earl of Northumberland. The inheritance, failing the heirs of her body, was settled upon the heirs male of her husband, who were to bear the arms of Percy and Lucy quarterly. This remainder took effect, and Cockermouth passed to the descendant of Percy by his first wife, Margaret, daughter of Ralph Lord Neville, whose arms appear over the gateway of Cockermouth, as do those of the Earl of Angus.

Earl Henry was slain at Bramham Moor, 1408. Hotspur, his valiant son, fell at Shrewsbury. *Henry*, the next earl, and lord of Cockermouth, fell at St. Alban's, 1455, as did his son *Henry*, at Towton, in 1461. *Henry*, the next earl, met a violent death in the Tower in 1489, being the fifth lord of Cockermouth of that brave, brilliant, and unfortunate race. *Henry*, the next earl, died a natural death in 1527, as did his son *Henry*, childless, in 1537. The next inheritors were his nephews, sons of his brother Sir Thomas; the earl *Thomas*, who was beheaded, leaving an only daughter, 1572, and Earl *Henry*, who died 1585. *Henry*, the next earl, died 1632, and was followed by Earl *Algernon*, who died 1668, whose son, Earl *Jocelyn*, was the last male of the ancient race, his son Henry having died young. *Elizabeth*, Baroness Percy, the daughter and sole heir, married Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset. *Algernon*, their son, created Earl of Egremont and Baron Cockermouth, died 1750, and was father of Elizabeth, the Seymour-Percy heiress; but Duke Algernon had also a sister, *Katherine*, upon whose son, Sir *Charles* Wyndham, the earldom and barony, and the castle of Cockermouth, were settled, and so descended to *George*, the last earl, who died without a successor in 1845, bequeathing Cockermouth to his natural son. Cockermouth Castle, therefore, having descended through the houses of De Meschines, De Fortibus, Multon, Lucy, and Percy, can boast a connexion with some of the most celebrated of the northern barons. It has, however, another, and certainly not less brilliant, association. In the adjacent town was born William Wordsworth, and the green court, flower-crowned walls, and gloomy dungeons of the castle are commemorated in one of the sweetest of his sonnets:—

FROM THE SPIRIT OF COCKERMOUTH CASTLE.

"Thou look'st upon me, and dost fondly think,
Poet! that, stricken as both are by years,
We, differing once so much, are now compeers,
Prepared when each has stood his time, to sink
Into the dust. Erewhile a sterner link
United us; when thou, in boyish play,
Entering my dungeon, didst become a prey
To soul-appalling darkness. Not a blink
Of light was there; and thus did I, thy tutor,
Make thy young thoughts acquainted with the grave,
While thou wert chasing the wing'd butterfly
Through my green courts; or climbing, a bold suitor,
Up to the flowers whose golden progeny
Still round my shatter'd brow in beauty wave."

G. T. C.

ARCHÆOLOGY IN INDIA.—THE TEMPLE OF BHARAHUT.

As many of our readers are aware, General Cunningham, and a band of equally enthusiastic archæologists, have been engaged for a considerable time past in active researches among the Buddhist topes of Bengal and Northern India, and their efforts have hitherto been rewarded by a very considerable amount of success. The past few months have been especially fruitful in good results, and one of the most recent discoveries has roused General Cunningham to enthusiasm. This is the disinterment of the enclosure or railing of the Bharahut tope. Bharahut, which is termed Bharaod in our maps, and is 120 miles south-west of Allahabad, is believed to be identical with the *Bardaotis* of Ptolemy, and has long been known to be the site of a very ancient capital. Writers of sixty years ago tell us that the jungle then covered the remains of the ancient city, but that its precise situation was clearly defined by the ruins of a gigantic brick tope, 68 ft. in diameter, and surrounded by a stone railing 9 ft. high. Since that time the natives have carried off the stupa, finding it very much more convenient to build with the consecrated bricks left by their forefathers than to manufacture more friable constructive materials for themselves. Happily, the stone railing proved too much for the enterprise of the villagers who established themselves in the vicinity of this easy quarry, and rather more than half of it remains undamaged, although it had been thrown down by the rubbish piled against it by the latest burrowers, who had unearthed the very foundations of the tope itself. When General Cunningham first visited the spot, only three of the railing pillars, near the eastern gate, were visible; but a little research and a shallow excavation soon disclosed the pillars of the south gate. The precise area of the inclosure thus determined, the explorers set to work and excavated the whole of it. Their hopes of finding any valuable remains of the old temple were disappointed; but, after all, the railing was the best prize, and fortunately the relics of it were in excellent preservation. The colonnade of the Bharahut stupa is pronounced to be of the same age and style as the great Sanchi Tope, near Bhilsa. The railing round the latter, however, is perfectly plain, whereas the Bharahut railing is elaborately sculptured, every pillar and every rail and the whole of the coping being ornamented on both faces, and inscribed on almost every stone. The inscriptions have been deciphered, and while from the characters employed the erection is supposed to be the age of Asoka, or B.C. 250, much curious information is afforded as to the donors of the respective pillars, and of the varied scenes which are represented by the sculptures. Indeed, the sculptor in many instances has not relied upon the effect of the pictorial device in telling its own tale, and has labelled it most carefully for the benefit of the groundlings. Whatever the motive of this peculiar ticketing, degenerate Aryan archæologists find it very useful, and are thereby enabled to identify nearly all the scenes and figures represented in the bas-reliefs. In strong contradistinction to the topes at Sanchi and Mathura, there are no naked or immodest figures in these sculptures; and the effigies of the women are all well clad. Their heads are generally covered with richly-figured cloths, and most of the figures are decorated with gold and jewelled ornaments, on which one of the favourite Buddhist emblems is frequently repeated. Both men and women wear earrings and one peculiar and massive pattern predominates throughout the sculptures. The *ankus*, or elephant goad, is also a favourite ornament, being placed at intervals in the long necklaces of the ladies. There is no lack of diversity in the representation of the various characters, and we are introduced to all sorts of society from the palace to the barrack-room. We have common soldiers attired in long tunics girt at the waist, wearing boots ornamented by tassels in front, and armed with broad scimetar-looking swords. The standard-bearer prances along on a steed with strange trappings, bearing aloft a human-headed bird on the top of the pole, and so we ascend the social ladder till we come to "the Queen of India, decked out in all her finery, with flowered shawl or muslin sheet over her head, with massive earrings and elaborate necklaces, and a petticoat reaching to the mid-leg—a petticoat secured round the waist by a zone of seven strings, as well as by a broad and highly ornamented belt." So varied are the figures that, as General Cunningham says:—"From these sculptures we can learn what was the dress of all classes of the people of India during the reign of Asoka, or about three-quarters of a century after the death of Alexander the Great." The representations of the denizens of the lower animal world are also greatly diversified, and we find elephants, horses, deer, cows, monkeys, tapirs, crocodiles, and Jonah-like fishes, which are swallowing whole boat-loads of men. The artists of those far-away times seem to have had a keen sense of the ridiculous, and fully recognising the trickiness of the monkey tribe, have not hesitated to turn it to advantage in their representations. In one scene an elephant is depicted as a captive, and the men who have seized him, having fastened a billet of wood to his trunk, to prevent him from working mischief, have handed him over to the custody of a monkey tribe, some of whom tug him along by cords, while the rest institute a kind of triumphal procession, to the accompaniment of shells and cymbals, played by an orchestra of apes. On another slab the monkeys have made a giant prisoner, and restrain his restive attempts at liberty by the controlling force of a huge pair of pincers, which are firmly fixed on his nose, and kept in grip by a drag elephant. As might be expected, the legendary lore of Buddhism is not omitted, and there are more than a dozen representations of the *Iatakas*, or traditions respecting the previous births of Gautama. One stone refers to the "goose birth"; but the only portion of the slab now remaining below the inscription is the expanded tail of a peacock, a bird that apparently took part in the story as well as the goose. Another relates to the Kinaras, a sort of demigod, two of whom, a male and female, are represented, with human heads, and a dress of leaves, as standing before some human personage, who is in a sitting posture. A third refers to the "mean or average amount of food" which was attained by daily increasing the quantity with the enlarging moon, and decreasing it when the moon was waning. One peculiar slab represents an elephant, with a bee stinging its eye and a bird pecking at its head. The elephant is treading on a nest of young sparrows, and a frog sits croaking close by. To the right, another bird is sitting on a tree and piping after a second elephant, who is hastily retreating in terror, with his tail between his legs. This queer picture is entitled, "The Latwa Bird-birth." A common Cashmere legend explains it. The story goes, that a roving elephant mischievously threw down a nest of young birds. The parents, in their distress, summoned the bees to aid them in redressing their wrongs, and the hulking aggressor was so severely stung that he fled to the river, and was drowned, in a vain attempt to escape from his tiny tormentors. The moral is obvious, and co-operators might appropriately introduce the Buddhist slab into their coats of arms. The entrance-gateways were, of course, especially rich in ornamentation. The corner pillars bear statues, each 4½ ft. high, of Yakshas and Yakshinis, to whom the guardianship of the portals was entrusted. Altogether this railing is a most marvellous piece of ancient workmanship, and its discovery supplies a missing link in the history of Hindostan, comprising, as we are told it does, "new words, new facts, and many a correction of what was already known" relative to the country in the past.

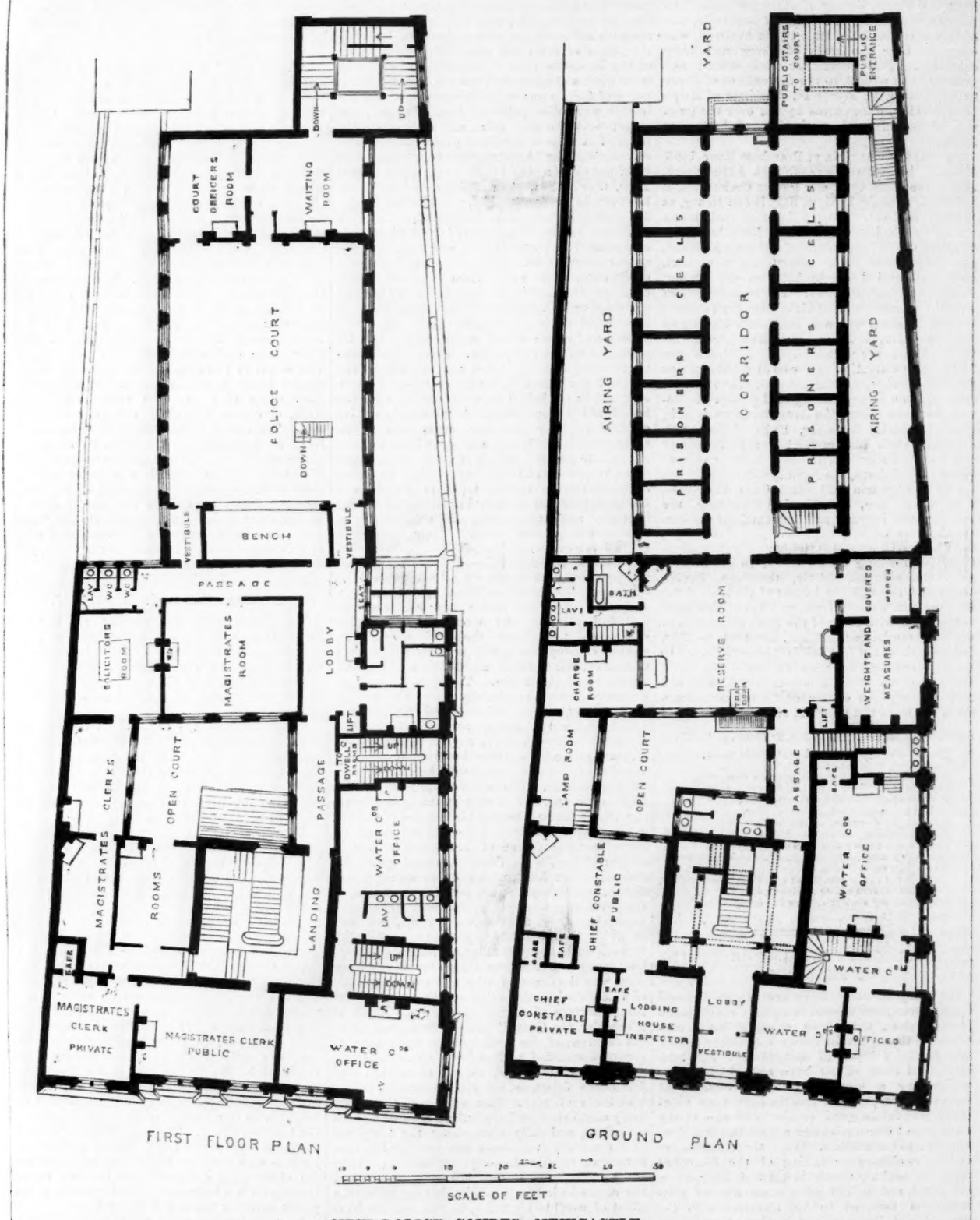
NEWCASTLE POLICE COURTS.

We illustrate in our present number the Police Courts which are being built in Newcastle from the designs of Mr. John Lamb, architect, at the cost of about 17,000*l*. A description of the building has already appeared in our pages, but it may be convenient to repeat a portion of it.

The new courts are situated on the east side of Pilgrim-street, opposite Shakspeare-street, the rear being contiguous to the borough gaol in Carliol-square. In shape the site is an irregular parallelogram, 210 ft. in length, and 80 ft. in width at the front of Pilgrim-street end, and 65 ft. in width at the other end.

The general style of the building is French-Italian, but the treatment of details is very free. The front elevation is adorned with colossal figures of Truth, Peace, Justice, and Mercy, and a set of heads of historical characters placed above the doorway, and above the arched and mullioned windows. The head above the main entrance is intended to represent Queen Victoria. There are also heads of Queen Elizabeth and of Oliver Cromwell. The height of the front elevation from the pavement to the pediment is 64 ft., and the vase-shaped final which surmounts it carries it 2 ft. higher. In a line with the centre of the building, and at a distance of 20 ft. or 30 ft. from the front, an octagonal tower rises above the lower roof. To the cornice of this tower the height is 81 ft., to the top of the pyramidal roof is 22 ft. higher, and a diadem-shaped summit of ironwork terminating in a vane makes the height from the ground to the topmost point of the building 126 ft. The side elevation is not so ornate in style as the front. There are two projections with pavilion roofs,—one at the corner, the other some distance down the new street. Lower still is a large tower, under which is the public entrance to the new Police Court.

Between this tower and the middle pavilion is what may be termed the waist of the structure, which is not carried up to the same height as the other parts of the building, and which contains the cells for the prisoners and the court-room. The front entrance is flanked by polished granite slabs, and leads immediately to the grand staircase. The well of the staircase is the octagonal tower. On the ground-floor of the front portion of the buildings are the offices of the chief constables, clerks, inspectors of police, &c. Further on are a few steps down, which lead into what is to be the charge-room, and beyond it is the reserve police-room, a spacious apartment. Beyond this again are the cells, in two tiers, the increased height between the first-floor and the ground caused by the descent of the steps, affording room for the Mezzanine or intermediate floor. There are twenty-nine cells, each measuring 11 ft. by 8 ft. 9 in. Every cell is fitted up in ap-

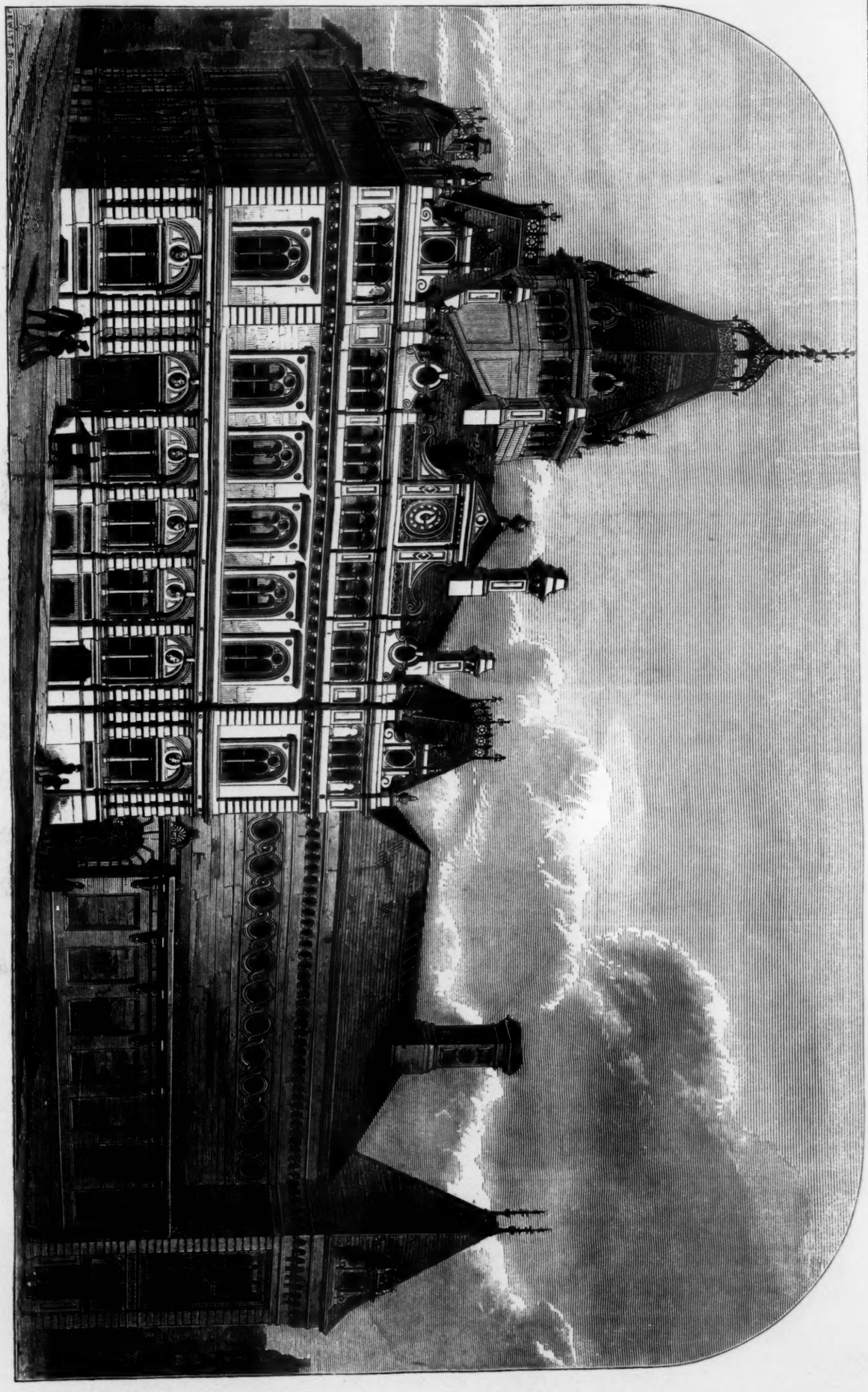


NEW POLICE COURTS, NEWCASTLE.

proved fashion, and warmed in winter by hot-air pipes. Outside of the cells, and at each side of the building, is an open courtyard, in which the prisoners may take their exercise.

Underneath the cells is the furnace for heating the cells and the court-room above, and there are also arrangements for the ventilation of the building by means of flues running up and along the walls of the court to a ventilating shaft, where an open furnace carries off the foul air. On the first-floor at the front are the rooms of the magistrates' clerk and his assistants, retiring-rooms for the magistrates, consulting-rooms for solicitors and their clients, waiting-rooms for witnesses, &c. The court-room is on this floor, and measures 50 ft. by 37 ft., and 25 ft. in height, with a ribbed and panelled cove-shaped ceiling, lighted from the roof by a large sunlight, and from the sides by circular windows with swing sashes. The bench does not take up any space of the room, as the magistrates will be seated a few feet above the level of the floor, underneath an elliptical arch thrown back from the west end of the room. On the upper floors of the higher blocks are dwelling-rooms for officials, and kitchens and dormitories for the police. Every floor has its own water-closets, urinals, lavatories, bath-rooms, &c. Hydrants are also placed at every point of vantage for the suppression of fire, should it break out. Provision has been made in the south-west corner of the building for the offices of the Whittle Dean Water Company. It is also intended to establish an underground connexion between the police cells and the gaol.

Mr. Walter Scott is the principal contractor, and different departments of the work have been sub-let by him to Messrs. Lowry, joiners Mr. Gibson, painter; and Mr. Ralph Dodds plasterer.



NEW POLICE COURTS, NEWCASTLE.—Mr. John Lamb, Architect.

A LAY SERMON ON CHURCHYARDS AND EPITAPHS.

In an hour of morbid melancholy the poet sings of earth becoming "dark with the shadows of the tombs." It is an unnatural and repulsive idea to associate skulls and crossbones and the like horrible paraphernalia with Death; to paint him as a gaunt skeleton armed with a scythe, wandering to and fro in the world, ruthlessly mowing down youth and age. It is better philosophy and better religion to figure Death as one of God's brightest angels continually travelling between earth and heaven, bearing messages of love, with voice soft as the autumn wind, that whispers to the dying blossom, and hand as gentle as the snow-flakes that weave their shroud above the perished flower.

"Weep not for the dead, neither bemoan him," was the counsel of the prophet of old, but how difficult the task to act upon it. Bereavement mourns over the grave as if the one she loved was lying in the darkness beneath; she will not pause to reflect, to know and comfort herself with the knowledge that all that endeared the lost one,—lost only for awhile,—the nobleness of soul, the beauty of mind, go not down into the grave, but rise from the bed of death upon the wings of immortality. It is the dust alone which returns to the dust.

"The luxury of woe" has lost much of its spiritual significance, and is become grossly materialised. Nowadays it has a price in the market. We measure our grief by the length of our crape. We have establishments whose "melancholy pleasure" is to supply mourning at various rates and in various shades, so as to accommodate the wildest heartbreak and the most microscopic grief. Only at the grave do we discover what a good or amiable or noble-hearted individual the departed was. We get up subscriptions for a monumental tomb to the genius or talent that for nigh a lifetime begged a morsel of bread from us, and got a stone,—after death,—and we inscribe on it an epitaph to tell posterity how highly the departed was honoured during life, how deeply regretted after death. "False as an epitaph," is an old saying. "Here lies," is a common and equivocal commencement. There is a painting in Hampton Court, representing the Day of Judgment; the graves are open, and some of the reanimated corpses are rushing about, carrying their tombstones with them; unfortunately the artist has been beneath a tombstone for a century or two, and the idea he wished to convey is buried with him. Could it be that he supposed the dead would on the Great Day of Account use their then epitaphs as testimonials?

An epitaph is too frequently an ornamental grief; if it were not so, nothing could teach a more solemn lesson; nothing could better win the heart of man to think kindlier of his fellowmen; for all that was lovable in a friend becomes still more lovely, all that was hateful in one we deemed an enemy is robbed of ugliness when friend and enemy are laid in the grave. Death draws a curtain between us and the departed through which we see them beatified, as we see a calmer loveliness in the landscape when veiled in the golden haze of the morning.

It is a feeling of natural piety that causes us to record upon the gravestone the name and virtues of the deceased; and those that say,

> "We have no need of names or epitaphs,
> We talk about the dead by our firesides,"

are actuated by a feeling flowing from the same source. Each churchyard is a volume of Earth's great treatise on Death; its printed pages are the records on the tombstones; there are in it also blank pages—nameless graves—eloquent in their silence. Nature bends her blue eye on each hillock in the churchyard, nothing unlovely or repulsive meets her gaze; she only sees that which was once the tenement of a soul,

> "Turning to daisies gently in the grave."

It was a beautiful thought of olden Saxon piety to name the burial-ground God's Acre,—a sacred land at whose borders man should put off pride and vanity; a field never to be upturned by the plough, into which the husbandman should never cast the grain to be quickened for the sickle of the reaper; where that seed alone may be sown which is to corrupt amid corruption, and to rise incorruptible when God gathers in the harvest of time.

An epitaph being the utterance of sorrow, should be brief. The character of the individual whom it commemorates should be given, but not in detail,—a scrupulous minuteness is apt to convey the impression that the truth has not been strictly adhered to, and a multiplicity of words is generally the index of assumed sorrow. An old epigram says,

> "With most of epitaphs I'm grieved,
> So very much is said:
> One half will never be believed,
> The other never read."

If the departed was a kind husband, let that be said, without noting the various domestic duties which he so lovingly discharged; of a charitable man, let the simple fact be told without turning the tombstone into a subscription list (no uncommon practice), by detailing the various sums he gave during life, or bequeathed at death, for benevolent purposes, and astonishing future generations with the information that he was president of a soup-kitchen, or honorary secretary to a coal-distribution society; if a soldier, where is the necessity to enumerate the number of legs lost and stumps won in the cause of glory? if an author, let no "complete list of the author's works" be furnished; and let not a physician's epitaph become a "quack advertisement," recording wonderful cures he had performed during his life; in short, an epitaph should be brief, and written in language that will appeal to the hearts of all who read it. It should be free from the arrogance that appropriates heaven and eternal happiness, and, on the gravestone, boasts of the possession in words such as these:—"I am with the blessed." It should refer to the hope that stretches beyond the grave, to the uncertainty of life, and the certainty of death, and the tone of it all should teach that

> "The glories of our birth and state
> Are shadows, not substantial things."

The more condensed an epitaph is, the better. Pope wrote for Dryden's tomb:—

> "This Sheffield raised. The sacred dust below
> Was Dryden once. The rest who does not know?"

It was not adopted. How much grander the one word that occupies its place:—

> "Dryden."

What an intensity of affection in the simple inscription:—

> "Here lies Willie,
> Aged 8 months."

The simple notice, "Here lies Willie," would have given scope for wide conjecture, but "aged 8 months" pictures at once the infant sitting on the shore of life suddenly snatched away from the murmur of the sunny wavelets. Our best epitaphs are incorporated with our literature. What need is there of quoting Milton's on Shakspeare, Ben Jonson's on the Countess Dowager of Pembroke, or Garrick's on Hogarth?

Into the subject of epitaphs written by poets for themselves there is little space to enter. That of Thomas Hood is almost perfect,—"He sang the Song of the Shirt." Thomas Campbell wished that "Author of Gertrude of Wyoming" might be recorded on his memorial stone, but his wish was not carried out. Matthew Prior wrote for himself such an epitaph as might have been expected:—

> "Nobles and Heralds, by your leaves
> Here lies what once was Matthew Prior,
> The son of Adam and of Eve,
> Can Stuart or Nassau claim higher?"

In vivid contrast to this is the self-written epitaph of Robert Burns:—

* * * * *

> "The poor inhabitant below
> Was quick to learn and wise to know.
> And keenly felt the friendly glow,
> And softer flame;
> But thoughtless follies laid him low,
> And stain'd his name."

The age of conventonal epitaphs is gone, such as "Sickness was my portion, physic was my food," &c., and "Afflictions sore," &c.; the age of conventional tombstones, on which were displayed crossbones and grinning skulls and cherubs, that strongly resembled owls and parrots in their general contour, has departed and in the place of the latter we have a conventionality quite as ridiculous, quite as absurd. Who has ever entered a cemetery without being annoyed with the number of *quasi* broken pillars, torches extinguished, or about to be so, and the ewers and towels and double-handed jugs, that are suggestive of nothing but bedrooms and barbers' shops?

There is a large class of well-meaning people who seem to think a gravestone without an epitaph a mere wilful waste of so much good stone, and that *with* one, or rather *by* stone, the claims of the departed to the consideration of the public are mightily strengthened; that a plain tombstone is considerably more respectable than a simple raised turf; but that a tombstone with an epitaph to boot is positively and indisputably genteel. Our burial-places are capable of great improvement. Who without a shudder can look upon a city churchyard, "a dismal place raised a few feet above the level of the street, and parted from it by a low parapet wall and an iron railing—a rank unwholesome rotten spot, where grass and weeds seem in their frowzy growth to tell that they had sprung from paupers' bodies, and struck their roots in the graves of men sodden in steaming courts and drunken hungry dens." How different the feeling with which we enter a churchyard in the country, how reverently we gaze around the holy pile where beneath whose roof in life they congregated to worship,

> "Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,
> The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

And yet knowledge and our reason tell us that to bury the dead in proximity to the living is to help to shorten the, in any case, brief space of time which divides one from the other.

WATER-TIGHT COMPARTMENTS IN IRON SHIPS.

The details of the last terrible catastrophe in the Channel,—the collision between the two iron ships, the *Candahar* and the *Kingsbridge*,—enforce still more plainly the necessity for increased precaution against collisions, and against their results.

As far as precautions against the collisions themselves go, the question is not so immediately within our province as the means that may be adopted to limit, if not prevent, their disastrous results. As long as a good iron ship is sound she will float; but knock but the smallest hole in her below her water-line, and she will inevitably go to the bottom. With wooden ships this is not necessarily the case; the natural buoyancy of wood will keep even a water-logged vessel at the top of the water for a time; she will not fill and sink so suddenly as a vessel the specific gravity of whose material is much greater. In the case in question, the *Candahar* and the *Kingsbridge* were both iron ships, of nearly equal size, and both were very much injured; but one went down in three minutes, while the other managed to get into a safe port. Why was this? The *Candahar* smashed in her bows, but the entrance of the water into the hull of the ship was prevented by the water-tight bulkhead with which all iron ships are built. The *Kingsbridge*, on the other hand, was attacked in a part where no water-tight compartment existed, and there was nothing to prevent the immediate filling of the whole of the ship.

The moral is obvious. Let iron ships be protected all round by water-tight compartments. Let them be built in two skins, or shells, the space between which should be divided into cells having no communication with each other. It may be answered by shipbuilders, that steamers are not designed for battering-rams, or to resist battering-rams, any more than they are built to go ashore; but this is no answer to the fact that vessels do come into collision with each other, and do go ashore, often with the most disastrous results, because no precautions are taken to meet such a contingency. Why are steamers built with a single water-tight compartment in the fore part of the ship? Is there any object in this precaution? If so, why not extend the precaution to other parts, and build the ship in several water-tight compartments; and so ensure her safety in case of being run into, as much as in case of her running into something else?

When the *Great Eastern* made her first voyage to Australia, she struck on a reef, and made a large hole in her outer skin. Had this outer skin been all that stood between her hold and the water, the fate of the *Great Eastern* would have been sealed from that moment; but inside the outer skin was an inner shell, which was uninjured, and the space between the two being divided into water-tight compartments, only one of these spaces was filled with water, and the damage was soon repaired.

The story of the *Amérique* gives a newer point to the moral we would instil. Though abandoned with 7 ft. of water in her hold, and with a serious leak somewhere, the vessel outlived a terrible storm, and her safety is probably attributable to

the fact that she was built in several water-tight compartments. Many equally fine ships have gone to the bottom without a moment's warning, through collision or through striking a rock, but their fate has been hastened by the absence of this precaution.

As long as there is a chance of collisions and of vessels striking sunken rocks every possible means ought to be adopted to reduce to a minimum the dangers of such accidents. The fact that most iron steamers are fitted with a water-tight compartment in the stern, while the rest of the hull is left unprotected, looks like a grim satire upon the mission of such ships: if they run anything else down, they are probably safe through the existence of this compartment; but woe betide the unfortunate sailing-vessel that comes across her path.

We cannot help again enforcing the desirability of all iron vessels being divided into separate sections, so that, should one be laid open, the buoyancy of the others will, at least for a time, keep them afloat. A double skin, similarly divided, would be the greatest protection that has hitherto been devised; and it is to be wished that shipowners and shipbuilders will always take this precaution. The extra primary expense would be more than compensated by the additional security, and the diminished risk of loss in case either of collision or of striking; and even if the vessel itself were so damaged as to be beyond saving, she would keep afloat long enough to allow her crew and passengers to take to the boats, instead of being suddenly engulphed in a watery grave, as is now too frequently the case.

CO-OPERATION IN EMIGRATION.

Sir,—There are continually a number of builders, from architects to hawkboys, emigrating, and they are amongst the most intelligent and enterprising of the craft, and, as a matter of course, readers of the *Builder*. They do not leave because there is no demand for their labour in England, but because they are those who are not contented to go out of the world as they came into it, and have a praiseworthy objection to remain for ever mere hewers of wood and drawers of water. Excelsior! and not stagnation, is their motto; and so long as they remain British subjects and Englishmen, their ambition should be encouraged. British capital always follows British labour, and the interest it earns comes back to swell the capital which grows so rapidly in England, and there is no doubt that if this had been invested in England only it would not have grown as it has.

Amongst these emigrants many are disappointed and disheartened, because the other side of the Atlantic is not the Paradise for carpenters and bricklayers they thought it, and some of these take to drink and carelessness, whilst others resolve to save money to return to England with; but they do not return, nevertheless. Before they can save this money, they have to work much harder than ever they did before, as their master works furiously by their side, instead of a sympathetic foreman, as in England. Not a few of such emigrants will have as many masters in a month as they had in twelve in England; but they have to "slog into it," all of them, till they do not mind it. It is not so much the richness of the soil as the hardness of the labour spent upon it that makes America flourish. You can buy doors and rods of brickwork cheaper there than in England; and a farm labourer will do the work to three acres there whilst he is doing it to one here. There is no aristocracy to support, but there is worse: a great number of scheming, 'cute middle-men to support, and it is these who flourish out of the high wages paid for labour.

A working man may ensure success and an independence in a few years by system. He may wax rich instead of the middle man, but he must not sell his labour to a man who sells it to another, nor yet buy what he wants of a shopkeeper who buys it of another shopkeeper, who again buys it of the manufacturer, who keeps a traveller, because if he does he is helping to keep six or eight middle-men. No; he must sell to the real consumer, and buy of the real producer; and he must, as far as possible, become his own producer and consumer, and therefore be prepared to do whatever his hand finds to do.

To put this into practical form, the emigrant must, before leaving England, raise 25*l.*, and then combine with say forty-nine other emigrants who have done the same. Amongst these there will be carpenters, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, masons, bricklayers, plasterers, quarrymen, gardeners, farmers, &c., and their united capital will amount to 1,250*l.* They must then secure almost free passages, and an almost free grant of 2,000 acres of land, with plenty of trees upon it. They must not go into expensive lodgings, but adopt a colony where they can live in tents till they have erected their own houses. Then they must purchase enough food, &c., of a producer to last till they can produce their own. This can be done in less than twelve months, and leave a good balance, and it can be proved that this capital is ample for the purpose. For illustration, I will take the colony of Queensland, where 1*l.* is 1*l.*, and not 5 dollars to-day, and 4¾ dollars to-morrow. The wages of such as I have named would average there 1s. per hour, and the hours are 8 per diem, 48 per week, or 2,400 per annum; thus the earnings of these fifty emigrants would be 6,000*l.* per annum. That is to say, the estate would be worth 6,000*l.* after their twelve months' labour upon it, less the cost of their provisions, 500*l.* at producers' prices. In the same inferential manner it can be proved that in ten years it and its produce would be worth 55,000*l.*, clear of the cost of living those ten years. Thus, by the laws of political economy, each member of the party would be worth, if their labour was equally valuable, 1,100*l.* in ten years. We find combinations against masters and capitalists, and it may be reasonably asked whether such a combination as this would not effect the purpose of these combinations,—which is to elevate the workman collectively rather than individually,—quicker and much more permanently, as no one would oppose it, whilst the Government, I am empowered to say, would encourage it as much as possible.

Let me explain the scheme by putting it in the form of a prospectus:—

THE CO-OPERATIVE FARMING AND SETTLING COMPANY (LIMITED).

Registered under the Companies Acts, 1862 and 1867. Capital, 1,250*l.*, in fifty shares of 25*l.* each.: payable, 5*l.* on application, 10*l.* on allotment, and the remainder as may be required.

Directors.—To be elected from amongst the shareholders.
Bankers.—The National Bank of the Colony.
Secretary *pro tem.*—Mr. Decimal Equation.
Temporary Offices.—Somewhere in London.

PROSPECTUS.

This company is formed to supply an urgent want long felt by individual emigrants, to establish them upon colonial lands as farmers, builders, &c.

Emigrants desirous to receive the benefits of the Company must take one share, and in return a passage will be guaranteed for 5*l.*, constant employment at the current wages of the colony, provisions at 50 per cent. under retail prices, a fiftieth share of the whole of the profits, and other advantages which must attach to the undertaking.

The company will engage a gentleman of colonial farming experience as manager, to be obtained by advertising in the colonial papers, whose chief duties will be to train the shareholders in colonial farming, and direct their labour upon the estate. He will be called upon to find sureties, and be held responsible for the results as each shareholder, whilst at work for the company, will be treated as any other workman would be, and remunerated for such labour as the manager may direct him to perform, as he may find him worth according to his colonial experience.

The company will open a store on the farm, where each shareholder may obtain what he may require upon credit whilst at work on the farm.

All wages or per centages of wages will be paid after the sale of any produce, unless the shareholder wishes them to remain to augment the working capital of the farm; and as the cost of living well will not amount to more than 10*l.* per annum, the wages due at the end of the year will average 110*l.* It can be abundantly proved by statistics, experience, and handbooks, that the productions of the soil of the colony yield a large profit after the high wages are paid, and that fully 20 per cent. may be expected on the capital invested, which would swell the amount to the credit of each such working shareholder to 115*l.*

A garden, &c., for the private use of each shareholder will be apportioned from the estate.

The shareholders will be chiefly occupied in cleaning, draining, irrigating, fencing in, cultivating, building upon, and otherwise improving the estate, but contracts can be entered into to perform similar operations upon the estates of neighbouring settlers. They may be married or single, but at first the accommodation will be such as other emigrants have to put up with, such as tents, bark huts, slab huts, otherwise called "Humpies," "Canadian Castles," or "Shanties."

Emigrants may do well to ponder over this prospectus, for it is not every one of them that improves his position by making his motto, "Every one for himself, and God for us all," and co-operation is essential to the progress of the age.

A Lover of Progress.

West of England Sanatorium. — The tender of Mr. John Hando, builder, of Weston-super-Mare, for the erection of the third section of the above institution, has been accepted, and the work will be commenced forthwith.

THE NEW FRUIT MARKET AT WORCESTER.

The new wholesale fruit-market, built by the directions of the Local Board of Health, has been opened to the public. It forms an improvement which all who know the nature of the locality will think great. Built between the bottom of Dolday and Newport-street, it presents a rather attractive appearance in the midst of the dingy-looking houses on either side. The site is near to that of the old market, on the North Quay. At the east side of a capacious yard is placed the warehouse for storing fruit, a building 34 ft. long by 21 ft. wide, while on the north is a row of offices, nine in number, for the use of the fruit merchants. There are two entrances, one from Dolday and the other from the North Quay, with a small doorway for foot passengers at the side facing the bridge. The whole is built with red brick, the windows having stone cills, and the arches of the doors and key-stones are constructed of Bath stone, with blue chamfered bricks between. The windows have iron frames. The piers of the gates are built with bricks, the caps and plinth being stone. A causeway of Rowley nuts with curbing of Yorkshire stone fronts the offices, and round the outside of the market will also be a causeway of the same material. The toll-collector's office is placed at the south side of the yard, and a few feet to the east is an entrance to the Hope and Anchor inn. The outside walls are all panelled. The yard itself is macadamised, and an upper stratum of gravel laid on.

The contractor was Mr. Kendrick, of Lowesmoor. Mr. Rowe was architect.

THE DARLINGTON FEVER HOSPITAL.

This building now approaches completion, and will probably be opened before the close of the year. It is built on the pavilion principle. Mr. G. G. Hoskins, of Darlington, is the architect. The site occupied was purchased at a cost of 600*l.*, and is a little over 2 acres in extent. The length of the corridor is 246 ft. by 8 ft. wide, and besides its convenience as a main artery to the buildings, presents a fine promenade for the male patients, who will occupy the upper wards. Each main pavilion is 42 ft. high to the ridge, and by itself looks an imposing but compact erection. The whole of the hospital as at present arranged, will hold comfortably forty-four patients, allowing to each, at any rate those in the main wards, about 144 superficial feet of area, and 2,000 cubic feet of air. This number, in case of emergency, could, of course, be much increased, even in the present buildings; and as the town increases in size, the buildings can, without at all interfering with the general design, be doubled in size and capacity. The whole cost, including that of the site, the building, and the boundary enclosures, is estimated in round numbers at 9,000*l.* There is a washhouse for infected linen, and a separate one, that used for the household, a drying-closet made of large slide horses, which can be drawn out or pushed into a hot-air compartment at will. The fumigating-chamber is supplied with Messrs. Nelson's fumigating apparatus. Provision is also made for the reception of infected clothing and bedding. The sinks are supplied by Doulton, London, and being non-porous, are warranted against throwing out infection.

The local papers say, the practice of building separate pavilions arose from the recommendation of Miss Florence Nightingale, enforced by the late Sir James Y. Simpson. We assume nothing more than we are entitled to when we say that the advantages of the pavilion system, as used in earlier times abroad, were first brought prominently before the public in our pages, whence advocacy of the system was carried on by the admirable Miss Nightingale. The time is coming when even a wider distribution of patients will be insisted on.

The New Opera House, Paris.—*Galignani* says that the acoustic properties of the new Opera House were tried a few days back with the full orchestra. The piece performed was Auber's overture of *La Muette de Portici*. Various echoes were observed, but the decoration not being terminated, several doors being wanting, and the public absent, the experiment was not considered complete. This first trial, however, showed that the space assigned to the orchestra was too limited, and that one row of seats behind will have to be suppressed.

PROPOSED EXHIBITION OF ART MANUFACTURE IN EDINBURGH.

Exhibitions of Industrial art have now lost their novelty, and are looked upon very much as matters of course. Their success has been varied and their effect upon art workmanship precarious, although it may be generally conceded that upon the whole they have had a beneficial influence. This is more particularly observable in the matter of household furnishing and decoration, a branch of art which necessarily follows the fluctuations in the more important art of architecture. These fluctuations have, however, taken the direction of mere fashion and caprice rather than that of true development and originality. This is sufficiently evinced by the present rage for the Queen Anne style; the carpets and wall papers now brought forward are after the Dolly Varden style of costume; flowers and fruit form the chief items of detail, and these are scattered about without much design, producing a somewhat *bizarre* effect. This cannot be upheld as a desirable result, for although a certain unity of effect is produced, inventiveness and true progress are checked, and mere imitation is the rule.

These fluctuations or fashions have generally originated in the metropolis, and thence have spread to the provinces; but their influence has weakened in proportion to the distance from the great centre, and it will be found that north of the Tweed there is less of that sort of thing than farther south.

It is proposed to hold an exhibition of art manufactures in Edinburgh next year; the proposal has been favourably entertained, and if carried out, the truth of our remarks will be put to the test. The scheme as proposed can be carried out at small cost, as it is intended to use the new infirmary for the purposes of the exhibition, an experiment carried out in Leeds some years ago.

The portion of the building now approaching completion consists of four spacious pavilions of three floors each. The situation is a fine one, overlooking a public park, and within easy distance from the most frequented parts of the city. Apart altogether from the Exhibition, Edinburgh is a city well worthy of a visit; it is annually thronged by numbers of travellers, and next year it will, doubtless, be more run upon than ever. The demand for hotel accommodation is greatly on the increase, and at present considerable efforts are being made to meet that demand.

Perhaps the most characteristic and attractive art-workmanship to be found in Edinburgh is the article of jewelry. Certainly the jewellers' shops are those most affected by visitors. In this line, Mr. J. D. Marshall (brother of Mr. Calder Marshall, sculptor) is *facile princeps*. He is no mean proficient as an amateur painter in oil, and in the present exhibition at Manchester will be found a large interior with numerous figures, which is the work of his hand. In his own special branch of art, he does not confine himself to the stereotyped forms; but has introduced an entirely new class of work, suggested by the runic crosses and other sculptured remains, and the details of Byzantine architecture, &c., which are wrought up with great delicacy and artistic finish. Edinburgh is not a manufacturing town, but it has acquired some reputation in the production of household furniture, and there are several firms who produce and send to all parts of the empire work of this description. The substantial are generally preferred to the more fragile forms, and while there is much to admire there is a good deal that is censurable.

Our readers may have remarked that Mr. George Dobie, of Edinburgh, has offered prizes for designs in wall decoration, and such an example will doubtless be followed by the promoters of the exhibition.

The Messrs. Ballantine, whose name is known to our readers, have of late made new efforts, and produced works of artistic merit. A new window, just placed in the choir of St. Giles's Cathedral, is a noteworthy example of subdued harmony, combined with richness of effect. English visitors will look at the ancient church of St. Giles with surprise, for nowhere will they find a similar structure in a worse state. The restoration of the choir has certainly done something towards amending this state of matters, but the dirty condition and miserable art displayed in the north transept, and the manner in which the south transept and nave are filled up are far from commendable. Visitors to Edinburgh need not look for much in the way of church architecture, the new cathedral of St. Mary will not be completed for some years, and the other new churches are commonplace. The ruined fragment of Holyrood Chapel is indeed worthy of careful study, and a drive to Roslyn will place them in contact with one of the most remarkable specimens of Mediæval art, and in the midst of one of the most beautiful scenes in the Lowlands of Scotland.

It is the natural beauty of Edinburgh rather than the beauty of its edifices which forms its chief attraction. At every turn new combinations meet the eye which are not found elsewhere, and the artist in search of the picturesque will find it there as surely as in the Continental cities he delights to haunt.

It may be that the forthcoming exhibition may lead to a more energetic and earnest pursuit of true art in the fair "Queen of the North"; and nowhere in the empire could better head-quarters be found for the establishment of a University of Art. The city might be made the Florence of Britain,—a source from which artists in every branch might spread to the remotest corners of the land.

SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH, SWANSCOMBE, KENT.

The quiet village of Swanscombe, three miles from Gravesend, made a sort of holiday occasion of the re-opening of the parish church after having been closed for about eighteen months, during which time considerable works have been done.

The nave tower and aisle of the church have been restored by Professor Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., at a cost of about 2,000*l*. The chancel at a cost of about 700*l*., about 500*l*. of which were given by the Messrs. White. The porch was rebuilt by the Freemasons of Greenhithe, at a cost of about 200*l*. Four stained-glass windows have been given; a handsome tomb has been erected over the family vault of Professor Erasmus Wilson at the east end of the south aisle; and a window of stained glass put up by the committee in memory of Professor Wilson's kindness and liberality.

The church, including the font, screen, lectern altar, altar-rail, &c., is ancient, and is well worthy of a visit, as it contains many objects of antiquity.

Mr. Erasmus Wilson is wisely acting as his own executor, and is doing many good deeds in his lifetime.

EXTENSIVE SANITARY BUILDINGS FOR THE METROPOLIS.

The Metropolitan Districts Asylum Board, with the concurrence of the Local Government Board, intend to rebuild the Hampstead Hospital, in order that it may be available for the reception of patients in the event of an epidemic breaking out in the metropolis.

It is further proposed to build a new wing to the Caterham, and another to the Leavesden Asylum, and the managers consider it may be necessary to erect another establishment for the reception of pauper imbeciles and idiots in the metropolitan district; and it has been suggested that, to meet the present emergency, whilst the new buildings are being erected, the Metropolitan Asylums Board should lease the workhouse in Whitechapel, which was erected for able-bodied paupers, but not used, as those cases now go to Poplar.

The expense in carrying out the new buildings will fall very heavily on the metropolitan ratepayers, and it is sad to find that the necessity exists for them.

THE LIVERPOOL MASTER BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner of the members of this Association was held on Wednesday in last week at the Royal Hotel, Dale-street, Mr. W. Callaghan presiding, and the vice-presidents were Messrs. D. Radcliffe and J. C. Bentham. The dinner was partaken of by about 100 persons. After the cloth had been removed, the chairman gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, all of which were duly honoured; after which Mr. Radcliffe (vice-chairman) proposed the toast of "The Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool," to which Mr. R. R. Minton and Mr. Forrest responded. In replying in the first place to the toast, Mr. Minton said he looked upon the fact that this year there had been no municipal contest, as a proof of the town's satisfaction with the representatives of the various wards. He regretted that there were not gentlemen in the Council to represent the building trade; and, as he could, if necessary, select two dozen gentlemen worthy of the distinction, he thought it was the duty of the building trade to look after their own interests. Mr. George Atkin then gave "The Town and Trade of Liverpool," to which Mr. Forrest responded.

Mr. T. D. Barry next gave the toast, "Success and Prosperity to the Master Builders' Association," and, in doing so, bore testimony to the immense value which the architects put upon the efforts of the Liverpool master builders. Among the toasts given was that of "The Operatives of Liverpool," to which, in response, Mr. James Samuelson said he hoped they would at once accede to the request of the masons and plasterers for an advance. They would have to do so, and it was of no use wasting time and money in lock-outs and strikes. If they were not disposed to yield at discretion, they had better follow the example of the coal proprietors, and come to an understanding to victimise the public by a judicious arrangement as to when strikes should take place. If they were not disposed to follow his advice so far, he would advise them to go in square for arbitration, and not offer 50 per cent. of the demand at first and then fight the operatives over the rest. That was not business.

SUBSIDENCE OF THE ROADWAY AND SEWER IN KENSINGTON-SQUARE.

The roadway and sewer in Kensington-square appear to be in a very unsatisfactory state. At the meeting of the Kensington vestry last week it was stated that the roadway on the north side of the square had fallen in bodily, in consequence of the sewer underneath having given way, and the surveyor reported to the Board that he had caused the ground to be excavated for the purpose of making an examination. On the opening being effected, he found that the sewer was in the very worst state of dilapidation. In many places the side walls had given way, and the roof had fallen in, while in other places the bottom had gone. He discovered, from the examination, that the sewer wanted entirely reconstructing to the extent of 240 ft. The vestry decided at once to advertise for tenders for the repairing of the sewer.

THE PROPOSED PUBLIC BATHS AND WASHHOUSES IN CLERKENWELL.

At the meeting of the Clerkenwell Vestry last week, the question of erecting public baths and washhouses in the parish came under discussion. The special committee to whom the subject had been referred brought up an elaborate report, in which they stated that they had visited the public baths and washhouses in nine parishes in the metropolis, and were much pleased with their general construction and organisation, and they were of opinion that none of the metropolitan parishes should be without them. They recommended that in the event of the Vestry agreeing to the adoption of the Act, prizes should be offered, of such amounts as three commissioners to be appointed might deem fit, for the best plans and designs for the buildings, which would have the effect of securing all the latest improvements being ascertained and submitted for adoption; and they also strongly recommended that commodious and well fitted-up swimming-baths be made a leading feature, and that such swimming-baths be provided for women, the committee having found that good swimming-baths were an essential element of success. Mr. Brighty, in moving the adoption of the report, said the success of the movement would depend on the business qualifications of the three commissioners the Vestry appointed. He added that no parish was more in need of baths and washhouses than Clerkenwell, as most of the poor were engaged in indoor trades. Some members of the Vestry advocated the postponement of the erection of baths in the parish until a return had been produced showing the amount of money borrowed by the Vestry during the past five years, but the majority of the speakers were in favour of the project being carried out, and one member (Mr. E. J. Thompson) said that if they borrowed 25,000*l*. or 30,000*l*. for the

erection of the building, the money could be got from the Public Loan Commissioners at less than 4 per cent., and if they put 1d. in the pound on the rates, it would bring in 1,000*l.* a year. If they had to pay money out for a few years it would be returned in time, as pauperism would necessarily decrease. After an observation to the effect that the report was one of the ablest ever laid before the Vestry, the discussion was adjourned.

DINNER OF THE BUILDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual dinner in connexion with this Institution was held on Thursday, the 5th inst., at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, Mr. George Dines, president, in the chair, supported by a very large number of the members and friends of the Society, including Messrs. George Plucknett, Thomas Robinson, W. R. Rogers, George Spencer Smith, Alfred Mansfield, J. M. Macey, George Godwin, F.S.A., R. Walker, J. Russell Freeman, Stanley G. Bird, Peto, Horn, Mowlem, Freeman, Burt, Alfred Goslett, J. Mackrell, T. F. Rider, Gardiner, Theobald, James Barnett, G. Trollope, Charles Fish, H. A. Hunt, jun., George Jennings, Bayes, Stirling, F. May, Hunt, Steward, C. Aldin, Thomas Stirling, M. Hall, J. S. Lee, James Simpson, W. Nicholson, S. L. Mann, Manley & Rogers, Scrivener & White, F. W. Keeble, J. Waldram, W. Watson, J. T. Bolding, W. J. Mitchell, E. Toms, J. Schofield, and others. About 240 sat down. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly given, and received with the customary honours,

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, said,—My duty now calls upon me to propose as a toast the Builders' Benevolent Institution. As many of you are aware, this Institution was established in the year 1847 for the purpose of helping members of the building trade who had met with misfortune, probably after many years of labour and anxiety. With old age creeping upon them and unfitting them for labour, they found themselves, as it were, stranded upon the world, and without, I may say, the means of living. The Institution also gives relief to the widows of members of the building trade, and I can assure you that some of the most lamentable cases of distress coming before the committee of this Institution are those of widows. Many an aged woman, after living in a state of comparative comfort all her life, suddenly finds herself, by the death of her husband, with all her resources cut off, and dependent on friends and relatives very often no better off than herself. Now, gentlemen, our object in meeting here to-night is to assist cases of this description, and I must ask you to remember that before any person can become a candidate for election on the funds of this Institution, he must satisfy the committee of investigation, who go into these matters, that his means of subsistence do not extend beyond a few shillings per week. As I have said, the Institution was commenced in 1847. Since that time 128 pensioners have been admitted upon its funds, and at the present moment we have forty-two on the books, the male pensioners receiving 24*l.* per year, and the females 20*l.* per annum. The amount distributed in pensions in this way since the commencement has been 18,113*l.* 6s. 8d. I may state that these pensions are paid from the annual subscriptions, from the interest of funded property, and also from the profits which have been received at different times, from the annual balls, which last item has amounted to a much greater sum than I should have supposed, viz., 2,331*l.* 7s. 5d. Now, I will say one word upon this subject, and that is, that our annual ball is fixed for the 21st January next, and our friend, Mr. Harris, will be glad to receive the names of any gentlemen who are willing to act as stewards in connexion with that occasion. The amount of our funded stock at the present time is 17,529*l.* 14s. 2d., of which 2,541*l.* 0s. 5d., principal and interest, are locked up as a building fund. Now, gentlemen, I have given you a short description of what the Society has done, and what it is able to do, and I think most of you will agree with me that it is not so much as ought to be done by so large and important a trade as that of the building trade of London. Our first-class builders and our middle-class builders have supported the Institution very liberally, and we are also supported by many kind friends, who lie, as it were, just outside of our trade—who are connected with us, but do not belong to us, and I am sure we tender them our best thanks. But we have never yet been able to cast our nets so as to bring in the smaller fry, whose numbers, could we get hold of them, would compensate for the smallness of their individual contributions. I believe there are 1,500 members of the London building trade in the "Directory" who do not subscribe to this Institution. Now here I think is an opportunity which every gentleman present might take advantage of in the next year, and try to get a contribution of half a guinea from each of the members of the London building firms who do not subscribe to our Institution at present. This would give us increased funds, and enable us to elect every one of the present candidates who are waiting for election, many of whom will have to be put back from time to time before they are successful. I have said, gentlemen, that our trade is a large trade, but it is also an uncertain trade, exposed, especially in these days of competition and speculation, to great vicissitudes, and it therefore becomes our duty while we are in prosperous circumstances to provide as far as we can for those upon whom misfortune may fall. I would like to put it upon higher ground, and say that it is our privilege to do so, and to help forward to the utmost of our abilities so good a work as that which it is the object of our Institution to effect. I feel that I am but a sorry beggar, but I ask you not to let any shortcomings on my part—any want of ability in pleading the cause of this Institution—prevent you from subscribing liberally to it. In conclusion, I would express the wish that all now present will, not only now, but in the future, do all they can to uphold and maintain this Institution in its present high position, and, further, seek to extend, by energy and perseverance, the useful and beneficent work which the founders of the Institution intended it to accomplish. I ask you to drink most heartily to "Prosperity to the Builders' Benevolent Institution."

Mr. Plucknett (Cubitt & Co.) next proposed, in genial terms, the health of the President, who, he said, was ever ready to serve the Institution to the utmost of his ability.

Mr. Dines having responded,

Mr. Russell Freeman proposed "The Patrons, Vice-Presidents, and Trustees," coupled with the name of Mr. George Jennings, who acknowleged the compliment with some hearty expressions.

Mr. J. G. Macey, in proposing "The Treasurer" (Mr. George Plucknett), paid a warm tribute to the great and continuous efforts which that gentleman had made on behalf of the Institution. There was no man in the building trade who had given so much time and energy to the affairs of the Institution, and although there were many honourable names associated with the building trade, no name could be mentioned which would be received with greater respect than that of Mr. George Plucknett.

Mr. Plucknett, in responding, appealed for an increase in the amount of annual subscriptions, for an increase of only 100*l.* per annum would enable the directors to receive four or five more pensioners on the funds of the Institution.

Mr. Rogers proposed "The Architects and Surveyors," coupled with the name of Mr. Godwin, to whose labours flattering reference was made by the speaker.

Mr. Godwin, in responding, said that the Builders' Benevolent Institution was not on the scale of importance and magnitude which the vastness of the interests involved required. He would supplement what had been said on this head by mentioning to them the fact, deducible from the last census, that during the past ten years 240,000,000*l.* sterling were spent in erecting dwelling-houses in this country, and it was equally certain that if the population went on increasing in the same ratio as in the past, there would have to be spent for the same purpose, during the next ten years, the sum of 250,000,000*l.*, or no less than 25,000,000*l.* a year. This was exclusive of the enormous sums spent in the erection of churches, railway stations, public buildings, bridges, &c., which would bring the total up to a sum which would seem fabulous. Surely, then, the Builders' Benevolent Institution ought to have an annual income of 10,000*l.* or 15,000*l.*, instead of 2,000*l.* or 3,000*l.*, if it were to worthily occupy its position as the principal charity of the building trade. In conclusion, Mr. Godwin expressed his gratification at seeing his old friend Mr. Dines occupying the President's chair, and paid a high tribute to that gentleman's sterling worth.

The other toasts were,—"The Directors and Stewards" (proposed by Mr. Thomas Robinson, and responded to by Mr. Simpson), "The Ladies" (proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by Mr. Steward), and the "Secretary" (Mr. A. G. Harris).

Subscriptions to the amount of 521*l.* 15s. 6d. were announced during the evening.

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, KENNINGTON.

The consecration of this church is to take place on this Saturday, the 14th inst.

The church consists of a chancel, south chapel, priests' vestry, choir vestry, organ-chamber, nave, north and south aisles, cloisters, baptistery, porch, and, when complete, a west tower with a spire. The chancel is 46 ft. long by 24 ft. wide, and the arch which surmounts it measures 51 ft. from the chancel floor to the top, while it has a span of 21 ft. The south chapel is 30 ft. by 16 ft., and is fitted with a piscina; while the cloisters, above which the organ-chamber is situated, are 19 ft. by 16 ft. The choir vestry is 35 ft. by 13 ft. 3 in.; and the priests' vestry is 17 ft. by 14 ft. 6 in. There are eleven steps from the altar to the chancel floor. The length of the nave is 110 ft. by 35 ft.; while the north and south aisles are about 100 ft. long and 13 ft. wide. The height of the church from the chancel floor to the ridge of the nave roof is about 64 ft.; to the inside of the walls, 52 ft.; and to the eaves, 37 ft. The aisle walls are 25 ft. high. In front of the organ-chamber is a carved niche for the figure of the patron saint, St. John the Divine. The arcade is divided into bays, with very richly-moulded pillars or columns, with carved capitals most rich and telling between them; while the arcade piers are thrown out 5 ft. on each side, and connected with the chancel arch by means of an askew arch. The roofs of the south chapel and the cloisters are groined in red brick, with moulded ribs of stone transverse and diagonal. The floor of the church is to be paved with tiles of various patterns, each pattern divided by bands of white Portland stone, and there are no pews in the church, only chairs. Behind the altar are to be three stained-glass windows, subject the Adoration of the Lamb, which were presented by a friend of the undertaking, and are being prepared by Messrs. Clayton & Bell, of Regent-street. There will also be a reredos, and a large number of oak stalls. The nave roof is a Gothic-shaped arch with moulded ribs, and is made of yellow deal, unstained and prepared for painting, which will be done when funds are forthcoming. The general style of the building is Gothic, and the church will be very similar to the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Paddington, which was also designed by Mr. Street. The material used for the church is a red brick, specially manufactured for the purpose, with Bath stone dressings. Outside there will be ten carved pinnacles, each 10 ft. high, which are to be raised above the north and south aisle parapets. The tower and spire will not be completed for the present. The tower is to be over 200 ft. in height. The number the church will accommodate is as follows:—Nave, 617; north aisle, 175; south aisle, 164; chancel, 26; total, 982; which, with a choir of 22 persons, will make a grand total of 1,004."

STREET-CLEANSING APPARATUS COMPETITION.

In consequence of letters in our columns complaining of the treatment received by competitors in this case, some of the gentlemen connected with the offer wish it understood that the proceedings in this matter have been quite straightforward. The several companies, first of all, subscribed 300*l.* to meet their engagements. They invited a prominent member of the Society of Arts and some other gentlemen to join them, who attended every meeting, and they gave a careful attention to every design submitted. With consent of the competitors, the designs were all exhibited to the Commissioners of Sewers at Guildhall, and afterwards at the Society of Arts. The investigations of the committee tended to show that none of the proposals were likely to effect what was wanted, but they offered one or two of the competitors any opportunity they wished of showing, in some practical way, what their inventions would do. Finally, they referred to a gentleman who had full knowledge of the subject, who is, personally, totally unknown to every member of the committee, and who has made his award, which, we believe, can be seen by any competitor.

It is urged that fifty guineas were no object at all to the committee. If they could have

obtained what they wanted, it would have been invaluable to them, and have made the fortune of the inventor.

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM.

THE Skinners' Company have presented twenty guineas to the Council of the Royal Architectural Museum, Tufton-street, Westminster, in aid of their Drawing and Modelling Classes for Art-Workmen. How many art-workmen attend?

SIR,—In reply to letter, signed "Harry Hems," permit me to say that the Architectural Museum is open every Saturday until six p.m.; and on the evenings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from seven till nine, when the drawing and modelling classes for art-workmen meet, and the Museum is partially lighted.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

DESTRUCTION OF SMOKE BY WATER JETS.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Architect," who asks for information on this subject, will find the method patented by Jeffries, in 1824, described in the "Mechanic's Magazine," vol. 34, p. 198. Also, no doubt, he can obtain a copy of the patent at the Patent Office for a mere trifle, as all the patents have been printed up to a very recent date. There is also a patent by T. Hedley for the same purpose, by a shower of water, but I am not certain of the exact date. I believe it to be about forty years ago. In this plan the patentee has either four or six flues. The smoke passes *up* each alternate flue, and a jet of water descends through the others. By this means the patentee says he *purifies* the smoke, and deposits all the carbon in the form of lamp black. I confess to a want of faith in both these plans.

C. H.

DAMPNESS IN STRONG-ROOMS.

SIR,—As yet we have seen no satisfactory reply to the question of "C." in the *Builder* of the 26th of September. We certainly fail to understand how your correspondent, "W." (October 24), causes a current of warm air to *descend* into the room.

Every properly-built strong-room has a gate, besides its iron door. The door is kept open during business hours, while the locked gate prevents intrusion and gives free circulation to the air. Upon or above the ground-floor this gate will usually suffice, but if the room be in the basement, and so built as to keep out external damp, it may be kept quite dry by burning one or more gas-jets under metal bells connected to ordinary iron gas-barrel (say 1½ in. or 2 in.), carried into and through the roof and walls far enough to leave no risk of fire descending it, and terminating upright in the open air, or by preference in an old chimney-flue. Burning gas in the room *without* such ventilation would only aggravate the evil.

CHUBB & SON.

SIR,—Allow me to suggest yet one more remedy, which, if it does not absolutely cure, will certainly greatly mitigate the evil,—it is common salt. Place some of this in pans on the floor, or where convenient, and change when saturated. It has been tried with success by Mr. Penrose (whose idea it is) in his office at St. Paul's.

G. M. D.

COLLEGIATE PROPERTY IN LONDON AND ITS CONDITION.

MAGDALENE COLLEGE, who are the freeholders of several streets in Southwark, are charged by the authorities of the parish of St. Olave with gross neglect of the sanitary state of the small tenements rented of the College by the poor, through a leaseholder, and with being the cause of spreading epidemics in the metropolis. In College-street, (their freeholds) there are about thirty small houses, and these contain from 460 to 500 souls, and more during the night. The medical officer found in one four-roomed house, four families,—a man and his wife and four children in one room; nine persons in the small front room on the ground-floor; two women and five children in a still smaller room at the back; and two families upstairs. The place was in a very dirty condition, and wanted turning out altogether. Several of the houses have fever under treatment, and at two dwellings deaths from scarlet fever have just occurred.

Institution of Surveyors.—The first ordinary general meeting of the session will be held on Monday, November 16th, when the president, Mr. Thomas Huskinson, will open the session with an address.

BRIDGE-MASTER IN THE NORTH RIDING.

SOME few years ago the *Builder* took exception to the terms advertised by the North Riding Quarter Sessions offering 300*l.* salary for a competent bridge-master, which title, by the way, is an ancient one, and now embraces within its duties all that is known to belong to the office of county architect and surveyor. The professional ability required to design lunatic asylums, gaols, courts, police stations, bridges, &c., and to advise the justices on other professional subjects, was not likely to be found for 300*l.*, the *Builder* predicted, especially when at that time the surveyor had to pay all his travelling expenses and be debarred from private practice.

If I remember rightly, there were forty-six candidates for the office, the successful one being Mr. J. G. Brown, of Sunderland, who had carried out the Assize Courts, Durham, under Mr. Crozier, C.E. This gentleman was expected to be everywhere in the county where works were being carried out, and in the moor highlands above Richmond a contractor had charged more time and men than he had employed, which resulted in an attack upon the character of the surveyor, resulting in his resignation and *dismissal*.

The magistrates, touched by the statements made by their late official, improved their offer to 400*l.*, and 50*l.* a year for a clerk, and such travelling expenses as the Court would allow, which offer attracted several applicants, notably two distinguished officers of Royal Engineers on half-pay. The appointment fell upon Captain Creyke, who for two years has endeavoured to do the work of this large district; but, alas! again we find a contractor has brought trouble to the official, and on asking for more salary for his assistant, he is *asked to resign*. Surely it is as little as the Great Unpaid can do,—to appoint a professional arbiter to inquire and report to them how such a state of things may be remedied, as within the space of five or six years we have two gentlemen sadly injured for life, through some defect in the working of this office. Without a liberal allowance for clerks of works attached to the office, I fail to see a solution to the problem, unless private practice is allowed, enabling the architect chosen to employ profitably a staff of assistants which he could rely on for occasional inspections, although it seems paradoxical to employ the money derived from private sources to a public office; yet such has been successfully done for many years in the neighbouring county of Durham. A district like the North Riding of Yorkshire, some sixty by thirty miles, with nearly 200 bridges and bridge roads, numerous police-stations, the Clifton Lunatic Asylum, the House of Correction at North Allerton, militia depôts, and other public property constantly being augmented, must entail a large amount of travelling and attention, and how a surveyor can manage to be here, there, and everywhere, although understood by the Justices to be easy enough, is a puzzle to the past bridge-masters and perplexing to the public. The same Justices give 800*l.* or 1,000*l.* to a Clerk of the Peace, who also has a deputy; and in the interests of an honourable profession and an important office, I recommend them to be equally liberal with their next surveyor if they wish to keep a good man and have the work thoroughly attended to.

LOFTHOUSE.

ACCIDENTS.

At the New Town Hall, St. Helen's.—At the Town Hall in the course of erection at St. Helen's, by Mr. Rome, of Liverpool, two young men, employed as bricksetters, were on the scaffold in one of the upper stories, when the support suddenly gave way, and they were thrown on to the flooring beams. One man had a leg injured, and one sustained severe cuts about the head.

In Sorby-street, Sheffield.—Some houses are being erected in Sorby-street, Sheffield, by Mr. T. Smith, builder, and amongst others he had working for him Samuel Keetin, and a youth named William Howson. They were working on the scaffolding, when one of the ropes gave way, and the scaffold fell. They both fell a distance of about 30 ft., and were removed to the Infirmary. Howson sustained a compound fracture of both bones of the leg, and Keetin was very much shaken by his fall.

Fall of a House in Birmingham.—A serious accident, says the local *Daily Post*, has occurred in the neighbourhood of Dale End, where, a house (No. 30) in John-street suddenly fell. Some adjoining buildings having been taken down, Roddey's house was left without support, and its sudden collapse seems to have been attributable to that fact and the recent storms of rain and wind. Some bricklayers and labourers at work near the spot perceived that the house had "given notice," and promptly raised an alarm. The people, with one exception, rushed out into the street and narrowly escaped with their lives, for almost immediately afterwards the gable end fell, and brought the sides with it. A woman failed to get out in time, and was buried in the ruins. As soon as possible she was rescued, and taken to the General Hospital. She was, fortunately, not so badly injured as was expected.

Fatal Crane Accident at Tudhoe.—From an inquest on the body of Robert Rowling, it appears that he, along with another man named Richard Carr, met with their deaths in consequence of a crane accident at Tudhoe Ironworks, on the 24th ult. George Savage, foreman labourer at the works, stated that the crane was for the purpose of lifting heavy pieces of iron, for the removal of one of which he gave orders on the day named. The crane moved and went on to the girder, which gave way, and the affair fell to the ground, a distance of about 14 ft. or 15 ft. All the men, six in number, were more or less hurt. He had seen this crane lift six or seven tons, and he had never heard that the column was out of position. Thomas Shaw, engineer at the works, stated that the crane and winch were looked at about once a week. He considered the girders a fixture. Had examined the foundations of the column from which the girder lost its hold, and found that the foundation stone had fallen away on one side, rather better than an eighth of an inch to the foot, which caused the column to get out of its perpendicular. The girder would consequently have less hold on the column top. Witness should think that that was the first cause of the accident. He did not know how long this stone had been out, but thought it must have been getting out slowly for years. The platforms were put down on so substantial a basis that they were not expected to require supervision. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, but at the same time they recommended that the [owners of the works direct a periodical inspection of the girders and permanent way.

CHURCH-BUILDING NEWS.

Retford.—The parish church of St. John, Clarborough, has latterly been undergoing complete restoration, and has been formally re-opened. The ancient pile, having a commanding position at the entrance of the village, was erected about the middle or towards the close of the seventeenth century. Since that period, time had been busily engaged damaging the mullions of the windows, and had so deformed the original regularity of the building that it appeared ready to fall down. Various attempts were made to repair this antiquated sanctuary. Bits of plaster were dabbled here and there for stop-gaps, and bricks were used for stone, so that these so-called improvements gave neither solidity nor elegance. Architects and builders have been employed, everything deemed essential has been taken in hand, and now there is only a sum of 300*l.* required to improve the churchyard, and build new entrance-gates.

Potton.—The parish church of Potton has been reopened for divine service. The old pews have given way to new sittings of varnished deal, the whole of the floor being boarded, with the exception of the nave and aisle passages, which are laid with Minton's encaustic tiles. The belfry space is now thrown into the church, and another advantage gained by the removal of the old gallery is that the proportions of the Gothic arch of the belfry are fully disclosed. The organ, which also is a relic of the past, has been transferred to the south side of the chancel. The large window in the northern aisle, at the eastern end, has been restored and lowered, the old window having been for years half blocked up. Clearstory windows have also been put in, with cathedral glass. The roof of the nave, which is of oak, has been varnished. The church is heated by means of two stoves, one near the pulpit, and the other just inside the entrance at the south aisle. Over the communion-table there is a large stained-glass window, having in the centre a medallion representing the Redeemer in the act of breaking bread with

two disciples. A memorial-window has been placed in the south aisle, next the vestry. It has three compartments, the centrepiece being the Crucifixion; while on the left is a representation of the birth of our Saviour, and the star guiding the Magi to the stable at Bethlehem; that on the right being symbolical of the Résurrection, the subject being the apparition of the risen Lord to Mary in the garden. These are surmounted with the monograms Alpha and Omega, the central panel exhibiting the letters I.H.S. in relief. Messrs. James Powell & Son, of London, were the artists. The entire of the improvements noticed were carried out from the designs of Messrs. Raynes & Shum, architects, the London. Mr. W. Osborne, of St. Neot's, was the contractor. The advisability of restoring externally, not only the north porch, but the north side of the church, as soon as possible, has been suggested. The old cement should be removed, the entire of the side refaced, and the windows, which are now in a bad state, should be placed in a proper condition.

Ducklington.—The small church of Hardwick, a village ecclesiastically united to the parish of Ducklington has been reopened, after enlargement and repair. The church, which is situated in Cokethorpe Park, and dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, originally of the beginning of the thirteenth century (of which date there is a font), had undergone every possible mutilation and alteration until it had been reduced to a plain white-washed flat-ceiled nave and chancel, the latter ending in a plastered wall without any east window. The roof having become very insecure, it was resolved to attempt not merely necessary repair, but some improvement as well as enlargement, and the result is that an aisle has been added on the north side, having a lean-to roof; the flat ceiling has given place to an open roof; the east and north walls of the chancel have been rebuilt, and a window of three lights, filled with stained glass has been inserted; the chancel has been raised by three steps, and the sacrarium paved with tiles; and a small west gallery has been removed. Want of funds has prevented the re-seating of the church, but the old pews have been reduced in height and have lost their doors, some old carved oak (granted to the church by Magdalen College in 1840) has been worked up afresh to make a reading-desk and chancel-stalls, and chairs have been placed in the aisle. It was found on removing the plaster from the north wall that an arch had formerly led into an aisle, of which the foundations were discovered on opening the ground for the new aisle; and a fifteenth-century door has been re-opened on the south side of the chancel, as well as a small priest's door close to the east end on the north. In the portions of wall which have been rebuilt many carved fragments of windows, columns, and doors were met with; of these two stones, with Tudor roses, have been used for the supports of the beams at the entrance of the chancel; another has been adapted for a credence-shelf, and the old piscina, found in the materials of the east wall, has been restored to its original place and use. The east window, painted by Messrs. Usher & Kelly, is the gift of Mrs. Cottrell Dormer, of Rousham Park, and represents the Crucifixion, the descent from the Cross, and the leading home of the Virgin Mary by St. John. The architect employed was Mr. Bruton, of Oxford; and the builder, Mr. Barnes, of Witney.

Brighton.—In the enlargement of St. Margaret's Chapel, Cannon-place, the style adopted is Renaissance, freely treated; and the decorations are in conformity with that style. There is a new chancel, formed at the west end, with circular columns of red Penryhn stone shafts on clean Corsham Down stone pedestals, with carved stone capitals, moulded caps, bases, and carved and moulded panels, supporting semi-circular arches moulded and run in plaster, &c. The north wall is divided into bays by pilasters in plaster, surmounted by cast capitals. The ceiling over the chancel is wagon-headed, and its surface broken up into octagonal panels, with raised and moulded ribs, all in plaster. The south side of the chancel has circular columns and square pedestals, all of Corsham Down stone; carved capitals, and ace-shaped moulded panels to pedestals. These columns support the south side of the chancel roof, and do a like duty—with the addition of carved stone trusses on their sides—for the gallery on that side overlooking the chancel. The gallery is intended to receive a new organ at its east end, with two fronts: one facing along the south gallery, through a newly-cut opening, and the other facing into the chancel. The west end of the gallery is to be devoted to the use of the choir. The general plastering is done with the patent Selenitic mortar, and finished in trowelled stucco. There is a reredos, panelled and artistically worked out in unison with the old English custom of having the Ten Commandments placed in the centre panels, and the Lord's Prayer and the Creed in the outer panels. The columns of this reredos are diminishing and fluted; the whole being in plaster. For improved means of egress and ingress two additional doorways and staircases have been provided; one at the N.W. corner of the north gallery, and the other at the S.W. corner of the south gallery, occupying the spaces severally used as the "infants' school" and the old vestry, both now swept away, and thus affording access into St. Margaret's-place and Regency-square, giving increased light and air to the north side, and providing five or more means of exit and entrance. The new staircases are of red pine, with oak rail and newel. The windows in the dome are entirely new, of iron, and glazed with coloured glass. In the space formerly occupied by the old organ in the east gallery additional free sittings have been fitted up, and the Fishermen's Gallery has been extended across over it and is now in one, fronted with a new ornamental iron panelled fence with mahogany rail. The whole of the old square-headed windows of the nave, both above and below the galleries all round, have been enlarged and remodelled and additional ones provided. All the ceiling timbers under the gallery have been heightened. The gallery sittings have been cut down and re-arranged. The sittings in the nave are entirely new and of oak. An improved ventilator is fixed in the top of the dome, and the whole system of ventilation has been generally attended to, as also the lighting throughout; the old sunlight being replaced by gas jets, just under the windows of the dome. In the decorative painted work, Mr. Allen, of Fulham, has been employed, as in the dome decorations, together with the gallery fronts, walls, columns, capitals, and panels. The heating arrangements have been remodelled by the London Heating Apparatus Company. The cost of the enlargement of St. Margaret's will be from 4,000*l.* to 4,500*l.* The contractors of the work are Messrs. Cheesman & Freeman, builders, Brighton; Mr. Denman being their works representative, and Mr. Wood their clerk of the works, Mr. John O. Scott, of London (son of Sir Gilbert Scott), is the architect.

Miscellanea.

The Beaufort Chapel, Badminton.—Her Majesty the Queen having decided to erect a monument to the memory of her father, the late Duke of Kent, at the south-west angle of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, it was found that much of the light required to show it to advantage was excluded by a large monument to the first of the Dukes of Beaufort, which blocked up two of the windows of the chapel belonging to that family, near the entrance to which the new monument will be placed. The Duke of Beaufort therefore agreed that this monument should be taken down and removed to Badminton, and thus complete the series of memorials of his ancestors in that church. Mr. Thomas H. Wyatt, architect, was consulted, and the removal of the monument and restoration of the chapel were entrusted to him. The masonry of the chapel was much injured, large portions having been cut away to make room for the monument, and it was evident that the entire walls and roof needed re-decoration. This has now been done, and the effect is good. The badges, &c., of the Beaufort family have been introduced in the ornamentation, investigation of the fragments of ancient work having shown them to exist in the original decoration. The series of windows, begun many years ago by Mr. Williment, having the arms of the Marquises of Worcester and first Dukes of Beaufort, has been completed, carrying on the arms of the latter to the present time. The work has been designed and carried out by Messrs. Lavers, Barraud, & Westlake.

Radstock.—A residence is about to be erected at Radstock for the station-master on the Great Western line. The directors of the company have adopted the plans and specifications of Messrs. Robbins & Sons, builders, of Coleford, and the contract for the works has been taken by them for about 400*l.*

Memorial of the late Mr. Godfrey Sykes. An inquiry was made through the columns of the *Sheffield Independent* the other day, as to what had become of the memorial it was proposed to erect to the memory of the late Mr. Godfrey Sykes? The memorial itself has been completed, and has been in Sheffield for many months, but its erection has been deferred through the difficulty of obtaining a suitable site. Several positions in the town having been thought of only to be rejected, it has now been decided, with the permission of the Corporation, to place the monument in Weston Park. The choice of three sites there has been offered to the committee, and when the gentlemen appointed to select the most suitable of these have come to a decision, nothing will remain but to erect the memorial and to pay for its erection. The memorial consists of a column standing on a square base and surrounded by a vase in copper gilt. The material employed is terra-cotta. The column is a copy of those used in the new buildings at South Kensington, designed by Godfrey Sykes himself. Of the three bands of figures upon it, the topmost represents infancy, the second middle age, and the lowest old age. On one side of the square base is a medallion of Godfrey Sykes in copper gilt; on another, a panel filled in with the tools of the artist's craft,—palettes, brushes, and modelling tools; while the third and fourth bear, on copper gilt, inscriptions giving the leading features of Mr. Sykes's life. It is proposed that the whole shall be surrounded with an iron railing, from the foundry of Messrs. Longden & Son. The memorial has been designed by, and its execution carried out under, the direction of Mr. James Gamble, of the South Kensington Museum.

St. Michael's Church, Chester-square.—The ceremony of relaying the foundation-stone of this church, which is being enlarged, has taken place, in the presence of a considerable number of spectators. The foundation-stone was originally laid thirty years ago by the then Earl Grosvenor, and it was built to accommodate a congregation of 1,200 persons; but the church has for some time been so much crowded that it was determined to enlarge it by lengthening the chancel about 20 ft., by which accommodation will be afforded to about 400 persons more. The wall at the east end has been taken down and a temporary screen erected, so that the services might be carried on, and they have been carried on to the present time without interruption. In the progress to the works it was requisite to take up the foundation-stone, and it has been relaid in the position it would have been in had the church been originally built of the size it will be when enlarged. Under the stone was found a brass plate with an inscription in Latin and in English, stating that the church was dedicated to the memory of St. Michael the Archangel, and that the foundation-stone was laid by the Earl Grosvenor on the 20th of May, 1844. This plate, with another bearing a similar inscription, but substituting the Duke of Westminster for Earl Grosvenor, and the name of the present vicar for that of the former one, was placed under the stone, together with a bottle containing coins of the realm. The Duke of Westminster laid the stone. He said a few months ago Mr. Fleming took measures to raise subscriptions, which now amounted to about 4,000*l.* The expense would be about 6,000*l.*; so that about 2,000*l.* were required to make up the amount.

Ship Canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific.—A correspondent hears that the much-talked-of and much-needed ship-canal from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean through Nicaragua is about to be realised. In the first instance, Napoleon III. wrote and published an excellent pamphlet on the subject when imprisoned at Ham. The King of Holland, too, it appears, tried to make something of the scheme. Some months ago the subject was brought prominently before General Grant, who knew the country. A distinguished American engineer was appointed by the United States Government to command an inland surveying party. The work was completed in 1873, and the working maps, plans, computations, and estimates are now sufficiently advanced to be submitted to Congress.

The Proposed Sheerness Esplanade.—The Sheerness Local Board of Health having applied to the Local Government Board for authority to borrow 2,500*l.*, in order to construct an esplanade, the latter Board have sent an inspector to hold an inquiry.

Opening of Crewkerne Cemetery.—The parish of Crewkerne adopted the Burial Acts two years ago, and appointed a Burial Board, under whose direction the cemetery buildings have been erected and the ground laid out. The ground is four acres in extent, of which about two and a half acres are apportioned to the Church and the remainder to the Nonconformists. The buildings consist of two chapels, with central tower and a lodge, in which, besides the cemetery-keeper's apartments, there are a board-room, clerk's office, and strong-room. The whole is built of local stone, with Ham-hill dressings. The architect was Mr. Nattrass, of London, and the builder was Mr. Draper, of Crewkerne. The entire cost to the parish will be about 3,500*l.*, which has been raised on a loan to be repaid in fifty years. The paths were formed and the ground planted by Mr. Scott, nurseryman and landscape-gardener, of Merriott and Yeovil. The site is elevated, and from it there is an extensive view. The cemetery has been consecrated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

New Works at Hartlepool.—The extensive works of the North of England Wagon Company have just been opened at West Hartlepool. They are the property of a limited company, of which the chief merchants in West Hartlepool form the directorate, and Mr. S. Hannah (late of the North-road Engine Works, Darlington) is the manager. Messrs. Johnson & Fletcher, of West Hartlepool, have been contractors for the works, and the bulk of the powerful machinery is from Messrs. Robinson, of Rochdale. The works occupy a site of several acres, part of which was formerly the Cricket Field. The new saw-mill of Mr. T. Brown, Stockton-street, West Hartlepool, has been set in operation. It is a capacious building, erected at a cost of several thousand pounds, and is furnished with sawing and planing machinery, &c. A commencement has been made this week with the new engine stable in Mainsforth-terrace, for the North-Eastern Railway Company, the contractor being Mr. Moore, of Hartlepool, and the cost close upon 10,000*l.*

Bristol School Board.—Mr. W. P. Baker presented the report of the committee appointed to consider the designs for a new Board School at Long Ashton. The committee had before them ten designs, which ranged from 2,400*l.* to 5,000*l.* The committee did not think that the Board would be justified in selecting a design to cost 5,000*l.* if those at a lower figure were satisfactory, and, finding this to be the case, they cast aside all those above 3,000*l.* There were two plans which they brought before the Board, the one marked "Experientia Docet," estimated to cost 2,302*l.*, and that marked "Nulla Dies," the estimate of which was 2,680*l.* He moved that the former design be accepted. The Rev. T. C. Price seconded the motion. Mr. H. F. Lawes proposed, and Mr. A. Hall seconded, the adoption of the other design. The question was put on the amendment, which was carried by five to four. The chairman announced that the successful candidate was Mr. Stewart Coleman.

Re-opening of Lord Penrhyn's Slate Quarries.—Mr. Williams, Mr. Wyatt, and Major Mathews, arbitrators in the dispute at Lord Penrhyn's quarries, have published their award. While blaming the men for having ceased work suddenly and without reference to the arrangement at the close of the previous strike, that all complaints against the management should first be investigated by a supreme manager, they find that, with one or two exceptions, the whole of the charges against the management of not adhering to arrangements with Mr. Lloyd have been proved. The men at once resolved to resume work on the agreement made between the men and Mr. Pennant Lloyd, and on lettings by agents other than the present managers. Lord Penrhyn has appointed Mr. Wyatt supreme manager; and it is rumoured that Mr. Francis has resigned, and that his resignation has been accepted.

Exeter Improved Industrial Dwellings Company.—Of the block of buildings lately opened, the first stone was laid by the mayoress, assisted by the right worshipful the mayor, on the 6th of November last, and the contract was undertaken by Mr. James Stile for 3,543*l.* On a site in the Black Boy-road, the directors have accepted the tender of Mr. James Stile (from among four others), for the sum of 2,710*l.*, for the erection of a complete block of sixteen dwellings of four rooms each, and these buildings are about half-finished.

Manchester Statistical Society.—In the course of the Session the following papers, among others, will, it is expected, be communicated to the society:—Professor W. Stanley Jevons, M.A., "On the Progress of the Mathematical Theory of Political Economy, with an Explanation of the Principles of the Theory;" Mr. Robert Montgomery, "On the Bank of England and its Reserves;" Rev. R. H. Gibson, B.A., "Some Comparisons between Ancient and Modern Statistics;" Dr. W. H. Rumsey, F.R.S., "On the Boundaries of Parishes, Unions, and Counties;" Mr. A. Hildebrandt; Mr. W. E. A. Axon, "Some Defects in the Statistics of Libraries and Books;" Mr. W. L. Sargant; Professor A. S. Wilkins, M.A., "Notes on the First Report of the Universities Commission;" Mr. R. Bailey-Walker, "On the Facts of the Census (vol. 3);" Mr. H. H. Howorth, "On the Tendency of the Rural Population in highly-civilised Communities to Drift into Towns, and some of its Results."

London Bridges.—At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works last week a report was brought up from the General Purposes Committee, recommending that notice be issued of the intention of the Board to apply to Parliament for power to free from toll all or any of the bridges over the Thames within the limits of the capital. Mr. Richardson, the chairman of the committee, said the total amount of toll levied on all the bridges was, he had calculated, about 65,000*l.*, and twenty-five years' purchase of the bridges would amount to 1,625,000*l.* It was, he thought, worth while to obtain from the Government a continuance of the coal and wine dues beyond the year 1888, the date at which they expire. After a long discussion the proposal for the adoption of the report was carried on a division by 27 to 9. The purchase of the gas companies is also to form the subject of Parliamentary action.

New British Institution Gallery.—The present collection in Bond-street exhibited under this title is quite as good as, if not better than, any that have preceded it. It consists of works by both foreign and English painters. Under the former head are interesting specimens of the art of Messrs. De Haas, Lamorinière, Jan & Franz Verhas, Bossuet, and Giannetti; and from the English some charming little pictures by Messrs. Linnell, Dobson, F. Goodall, J. B. Burgess, and others. Mr. Claude Calthrop sends two very striking works. They represent on a large scale small portions of the interior of St. Peter's at Rome, with a very few figures in each case; and even those who may think them not likely readily to find purchasers, will be forced to admire the painter's boldness and originality.

Opening of a New Railway in India.—Bombay advices are to October 12. The *Gazette* of that date says: "The chief event of the week is the opening of the Hyderabad State Railway, which brings the great Mahomedan city of the Deccan into direct communication with Madras, Calcutta, and Bombay. The line is a little over 100 miles long, and at present is carried only as far as Secunderabad, one of the greatest depôts of British troops in India; but there can be little difficulty in perceiving its great commercial and political importance. Hyderabad is a wild city, said to contain 400,000 inhabitants, and one of the chief labours the railway has before it is to civilise the crowds of rude semi-barbarians who are gathered behind its walls."

Health of Chepstow.—This district is suffering from a serious visitation of the epidemic known as scarlet-fever. We are glad to find the local *Advertiser* urging that the time has now arrived when it behoves those to whom the administration of affairs, as sanitary authorities, is confided, to bestir themselves, and that promptly and earnestly, in devising and carrying out projects, if not for "stamping out" the disease,—which it is argued is impossible,—at any rate for the alleviation of suffering, and the taking of all due precautions for preventing the spread of the malady, especially amongst the poorer classes, who properly come under their jurisdiction.

Dismissal of Apprentices.—One of the apprentice carpenters with Messrs. Caird & Co., Greenock, sued that firm in the Greenock J.P. Court, on Saturday last, for wrongful dismissal, and claimed 50*l.* as damages. The case was dismissed, the opinion being given from the bench that the pursuer had broken his contract in joining with the other apprentices in systematically annoying the pieceworkers employed by Messrs. Caird & Co., whose presence in the yard the boys objected to.

The Overcrowding in Cottages at Burton-upon-Trent.—In compliance with a request from the Chairman of the Burton Town Commissioners, Mr. Joseph Nunneley, a meeting of employers of labour has been held in St. George's Hall Assembly Room, there to confer upon the most desirable plan of providing better house accommodation for the working classes, when it was unanimously resolved, "That the employers of labour present at this meeting pledge themselves to use their best endeavours to remedy the deficiency of cottage accommodation in Burton, and to invite the co-operation of the firms recently settled in the town."

Mr. Rupert Kettle and the Holiday Question at Ironworks.—Mr. Rupert Kettle has made his award as arbitrator to the North of England iron trade upon the holiday question, which has lately promised so seriously to interfere not with that industry alone, but with all the leading manufacturing operations throughout the country, by reason of the action taken by certain of the ironworkers last Whitsuntide, and the decision thereon by the County Court judge of the North of England district, by which employers were made responsible for workmen's wages during local holidays. The award is that no further claim can be made by the workmen.

Proposed Free Public Library and Museum for Islington.—A deputation attended the meeting of the Islington Vestry on Friday evening to present a requisition in writing, asking the Vestry to fix a time and place for a public meeting of the ratepayers of the parish to determine whether the Public Libraries Act, 1855, shall be adopted for this parish (sec. 8, 18 and 19 Vict., cap. 70). Professor Leoni Levi was spokesman, and stated that at Westminster they were only charging a farthing in the pound, and in other places he was aware that the rate was a halfpenny. The 24th inst., at 6 p.m., was appointed for the meeting.

Sale of Building Land facing West Ham Park.—Messrs. Philip D. Tuckett & Co. lately sold at the Mart, some freehold meadow land and garden-ground, lying upon the verge of the new public park. The whole of the lots excited keen competition, with the following results:—Lot 2, a plot of land containing 3r. 32p., with a frontage to Margery Park-road, sold for 720*l.*; lot 3, a plot of land containing 1a. 3r. 7p., with frontages of 665 ft. to Margery Park-road, sold for 1,530*l.*; and lot 4, a large area of meadow and garden land containing 21a. 1r. 12p., having a frontage to the portway, sold for 6,500*l.* to the British Land Company.

The Cowan Compensating Heat Company.—Some time ago we mentioned the experiments by Mr. Cowan with the view of utilising the heat given off by lime in slaking, for the warming of horticultural and other buildings. The arrangement has been patented, and our advertising columns show that a company has been formed to work the patent commercially. It is claimed that the arrangement in most cases saves the entire cost of fuel; that the heat is maintained more steadily than by any other system; that no night attendance is required; and that there is no smoke or unpleasant smell produced.

Disappearance of a Book valued at £12,000.—The Book of Kells, written by Saint Columbkill in the year 475, the most perfect specimen of Irish art, with illuminations, and valued at 12,000*l.*, has disappeared from Trinity College library. It is alleged to have been sent to the British Museum for the purpose of being bound. The volume is regarded as the palladium of Ireland. A receipt for it, signed by a Mr. Bond, purporting to be from the British Museum, has been placed in the hands of the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin. The greatest excitement prevails in the College respecting the mysterious disappearance of the volume.

Tipton Parish Church.—The parish church of Tipton has been reopened, after being closed for nearly twelve months for repairs and restoration. The exterior of the church has been renovated and *cemented*, the building re-roofed, and the old "pepper-box" tower remodelled. New windows of a *modern pattern* have been substituted throughout, and the interior has been cleaned, decorated, and re-lighted; the chancel has also been enlarged.

Sedgwick Memorial.—About 10,000*l.* have at present been subscribed towards the proposed Geological Museum at Cambridge in memory of the late Professor Sedgwick, which will it is estimated, cost 31,700*l.*

Honour to Shakspeare.—The Freemasons lately unveiled a window set up in the church at Stratford, in honour of Shakspeare. On the invitation of the Vicar of Stratford, the Rev. Dr. Collis, Grand Provincial Chaplain of Warwickshire, after the brethren had been formally met in the Town Hall, a procession "in clothing" was made to the church, when the window was unveiled, and a tablet placed beneath it shown. Dr. Collis read a paper showing the need of restoration of the church, if it is to be preserved.

The Great Northern Arrangement.—The Great Northern proposes to run *special first-class* carriages, having superior accommodation, the trains then consisting of "special," "first," and "second" class carriages. A change in the goods rates has been considered at Euston, and if carried out may seriously affect the Midland Company. The two great competing companies are said to be taking counsel how, without injury to themselves, they may most effectually retaliate upon the Midland.

Salford.—At a special meeting of the Salford Town Council, held on Saturday last, a report of the Museum and Parks Committee was adopted, in which it was recommended that a gallery of fine arts and sculpture be added to the present museum building, and that a sum not exceeding 6,000*l.*, from the Langworthy bequest, be expended in carrying out that object. A resolution was also passed in favour of a recommendation of the Health Committee, that Wilton House, Cross-lane, be rented as a hospital for infectious diseases.

Monument to the Welsh Fusiliers.—A monument has been erected in the parish church at Wrexham in memory of the officers and privates of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers who fell during the Ashantee war. The monument is erected by the officers and men of the regiment, and takes the form of a mural tablet, while on a light marble slab rests a wreath of flowers carved in stone, in the centre being a black heart bearing a suitable inscription in gilt letters.

Brighton.—The proposal made by Mr. W. Macfarlane, of this town, some time since, to utilise the Madeira-road, under the Cliff, leading from the Aquarium to Kemp-town, by constructing a winter garden, art gallery, and attractive covered promenade, is now being put into a tangible form, and very shortly the scheme will be formally submitted to the Town Council. The plans, which are somewhat elaborate, are being prepared by Mr. A. D. Dawnay, C.E.

Falling in of a Tunnel.—The Marple tunnel, near Buxton, on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, and Midland Railways, has fallen in for about 15 yards. The trains are being worked from either end of the block. It is supposed several men are buried in the ruins. The tunnel has been undergoing alterations for some weeks past, and traffic has been worked on a single duplicate line of rails.

Cheap Nails.—The "penny-wise" nails made of some cheaper metal than copper, which necessitated an expenditure of 600*l.* in the case of the *Raleigh's* resheathing, have created so great an interest in the Controller's Department at the Admiralty that a careful analysis of a sample has been ordered. An ordinary experimental trial before adoption would have been more satisfactory.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

Breeze.—Considerable saving in the production of "breeze coke" by the Pittsburgh ironmasters availing themselves of the laws of specific gravity is announced by the *Southside* (Pittsburgh) *Ledger*. The ashes from the furnace ashpits are thrown into water, and a certain portion float; the heavy cinders sink to the bottom. The floating portion is selected, and found to be the best possible fuel for a forge fire.

Establishment of a Cottage Hospital at Frome.—A large and influential meeting has taken place at Frome, for the purpose of establishing a cottage hospital. The Marquis of Bath presided. The Earl of Cork proposed, and Mr. G. W. Sheppard seconded, an appropriate resolution, which was put and carried, and one appointing trustees and managers and approving of a code of rules was adopted.

Asphalte in Lambeth.—The Lambeth Vestry, at their last meeting, after a long discussion on the merits of the asphaltes of the three principal companies in London, decided to adopt the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee to accept the tender of the Société Française des Asphaltes for the work required in the parish.

TENDERS

For addition to farmhouse at Eastwell Park, for the Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham. Mr. William King, architect:—

Wood	£598 0 0
Peters	567 0 0
Featherstone & Lucas	543 0 0
Prebble & Morley	535 0 0

For the erection of a new farmhouse and offices at Ratley, near Banbury, Oxfordshire, for Earl Jersey. Mr. William Eversden, architect:—

J. & T. Davis (accepted)	£2,320 0 0

For building new premises in Upper Sackville-street, Dublin, for the directors of the Royal Bank. Mr. Charles Geoghegan, architect:—

Hammond & Doolin	£7,796 0 0
Moyers	7,627 0 0
Lighe	6,820 19 5
Becket	6,752 0 0
Gahan	6,677 13 8
Pemberton	6,522 0 0
Connolly	6,485 17 0
Kelly	6,287 0 0
Collen, Bros.	5,902 0 3

For the erection of four shops at Wood-green, for Mr. T. Clarke. Messrs. E. Habershon & Brock, architects:—

Carter & Son	£3,179 0 0
Manley & Rogers	2,967 0 0
Lost & Co.	2,890 10 0
Sharpington & Cole	2,797 0 0
Scrivener & White	2,789 0 0
Browne & Robinson	2,540 0 0
Prout	2,000 0 0

For alterations and additions to second house, Clapham Common, for Mr. S. W. Cawston. Messrs. E. Habershon & Brock, architects:—

Scrivener & White	£1,110 0 0
Manley & Rogers	1,088 0 0
Sharpington & Cole	1,038 0 0
McLachlan	995 0 0
Lost & Co.	985 10 0
Carter & Son	943 0 0

For the completion of the Inns of Court Hotel. Messrs. Bateman & Corser, architects. Quantities supplied by Messrs. Balstone & Hunt:—

	Lincoln's-inn-fields Block.	Holborn Block.
Kirk & Co.	£13,760 0 0	£2,200 0 0
Waldram & Co.	12,990 0 0	2,197 0 0
Browne & Robinson	12,718 0 0	1,920 0 0
Manley & Rogers	12,850 0 0	1,987 0 0
Perry & Co.	12,700 0 0	2,000 0 0
Simpson	12,600 0 0	2,070 0 0
Hill, Higgs, & Hill	12,220 0 0	1,940 0 0
Longmire & Burge	12,100 0 0	1,900 0 0
Boyce	11,509 0 0	2,048 0 0

For public hall, Hackney, for the Hackney Public Hall Company, Limited. Mr. Henry St. John Ingram, architect. Quantities supplied by Mr. W. T. Hollands:—

Waldram & Co. (accepted)	£5,325 0 0

For shop, Mare-street, Hackney, for Mr. T. Wilkinson. Messrs. Lee & Smith, architects. Quantities supplied by Messrs. Linsdell & Giffard:—

Fish	£3,393 0 0
Hayworth	3,187 0 0
Seargant	2,980 0 0
Waldram & Co.	2,897 0 0
Newman & Mann	2,876 0 0
Forest	2,787 0 0
High	2,775 0 0

For stables, lofts, &c., Stoke Newington, for Mr. Martin Love. Mr. W. Reddall, architect. Quantities supplied:—

Ashby	£1,201 0 0
Browne & Robinson	1,179 0 0
Lewis & Co.	1,071 0 0
Waldram & Co. (accepted)	1,065 0 0
Cook	994 0 0

For asphalte paving, for the Lambeth Vestry. Mr. H. McIntosh, surveyor:—

Val de Travers	£237 10 0
Limmer	225 12 6
Société Française des Asphaltes (accepted)	225 0 0

For alterations to the Three Tuns, Portman-mews. Mr. H. J. Newton, architect. Quantities by Mr. H. W. Budd:—

Godden	£465 0 0
Taylor	444 0 0
Shurmur	423 0 0
Hockley (accepted)	376 0 0

For alterations at the Oakley Arms, Lambeth. Mr. H. J. Newton, architect:—

Hockley	£127 0 0
Taylor	109 0 0
Shurmur (accepted)	93 0 0

For repairs, alterations, and additions to 51, Portland place, W. Mr. Frank E. Thicke, architect:—

Plant (accepted)	£450 0 0

For hotel on the Kite's Nest Estate, Hastings, for Mr. Councillor Phillips. Mr. Henry Carpenter, architect:—

Hinkley	£2,266 8 9
Womersley	2,109 0 0
Champion	2,070 0 0
Eldridge	1,997 12 6
Park	1,979 8 0
King	1,927 0 0
Vidler	1,850 0 0
Howell (accepted)	1,789 0 0

For the erection of a house and shop at Poplar. Mr. T. J. Hill, architect:—

Anley	£827 0 0
Sabey & Son	827 0 0
Isles	798 0 0
Brown	786 0 0
Sheffield	627 0 0
Limn (accepted)	580 0 0

For decorations at the Mansion House, for the Corporation of the City of London:—

Macintosh	£987 0 0
Pitman & Cuthbertson	845 0 0
Gillow & Co.	735 0 0

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